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## AUSTRIA.

THE negotiations between Austria and Hungary are just going to begin; for the meeting of the Diet and the visit of the Emperor to Pesth have only been the prelude to the real business now about to be entered upon. Austria never, either in war or in peace, allows herself to get into a hurry, and probably the whole of the spring will be spent in an "interchange of ideas" between the members of the Austrian Cabinet and the representatives of the Hungarian Diet. It is to be hoped, not only for the sake of Austria and of Hungary herself, but in the interest of all civilised Europe, that some satisfactory arrangement will be brought about. Austria has, of late years, been very unpopular in England. Our typical Austrian has been Haynau, of Barclay and Perkins notoriety; and the Austrian Government has been commonly looked upon as a cunningly-constructed machine made for the express purpose of crushing all the legitimate aspirations of the Hungarians, Venetians, and Galician Poles. The Austrian Government has, no doubt, numerous crimes to answer for; but it is equally certain that many important political and administrative reforms have been introduced into Austria of late years. Austria is not a perfect specimen of a Constitutional State; but theoretically the power of the Sovereign is limited, and the Reichsrath, though it owes its existence solely to the Imperial will, during its short life, passed some useful laws, to say nothing of the good it effected by inspiring dishonest officials with the fear of publicity.

In Austria it is desirable not only to limit the power of the Crown, but also—and above all—to put a curb on the bureau-

cracy. The press is not sufficiently independent—the laws affecting the press are still too severe—for the acts of public functionaries to be discussed in the newspapers; but the members of the Reichsrath can ask for information in reference to alleged acts of injustice, and can blame acts of injustice that have notoriously been committed, without anyone calling them to account. Formerly, an Austrian subject might be imprisoned for years on suspicion, his property might be confiscated, a lawsuit which he ought to have won might be decided against him through the venality of a judge, and no complaint could possibly be made in public. There is an end to all that now. Legality to a certain extent is ensured by the existence of a Parliamentary assembly which enjoys the right of discussing the administration of the law. The Reichsrath has originated nothing, nor, in matters of legislation, does the right of initiation belong to it; but it has done much good in its critical capacity, and the Emperor's government has given a proof of sincerity by allowing it in this respect the widest latitude.

Austria, in her present attitude, deserves the sympathy of England as much as any State in Europe, and, even if she had not seriously entered in the path of reform, we should still be interested in the maintenance of Austria as a great Power. The only combination by which England is ever likely to be threatened is one between France and Russia—the combination formed by Napoleon I. at Tilsit, and which Napoleon III. was said to be bent on renewing at the time of the Italian war. The insoluble "Eastern question," sure to present itself again at no distant period, might easily bring about an alliance between Russia and France; and, in that

case, Austria will be our only possible ally. Indeed, the independence and strength of Austria are not only indispensable to England, they concern the whole of Europe and civilisation itself. Neither Austria without Hungary, nor Hungary without Austria, could resist the encroachments of Russia; but Austria and Hungary together would form a bulwark against which Russian invasion would be powerless. The historian, Palacky, paraphrasing Voltaire's celebrated *mot*, said that, "If Austria did not exist, it would be necessary for the sake of Europe to create it." To give the Hungarians all that they now demand would be to dissolve the Austrian Empire; while, on the other hand, to leave the Hungarians discontented, would be to leave Austria in a very feeble and precarious position, exposed at any moment to the danger of a Hungarian insurrection.

The first necessity for the Austrian Government is to preserve the unity of the State. For this purpose it was not necessary to introduce a German Administration into Hungary, and to forbid the local Hungarian authorities to correspond with one another in their own language. Such excessive abuses of power defeat their own object. But between ruling Hungary through a German Administration, and allowing the Hungarians to have an independent Government with a separate system of finances and a separate army, there is an immense difference, and the problem now is to discover the "happy medium" between these two extremes. Hungary must enjoy as many political rights as can be intrusted to her without endangering the unity of the empire. It would be sufficient to leave in the hands of the central power the portfolios of war, finance, foreign affairs, marine, and com-



SIR WILLIAM FERGUSON, F.R.S.  
(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY J. AND C. WATKINS.)



SIR RODERICK IMPEY MURCHISON, PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.  
(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY J. AND C. WATKINS.)



merce. But in their present mood the Hungarians will never consent to this. They wish for a position which would make them less the subjects than the allies of Austria; and to this Austria, knowing as she does that alliances come sooner or later to an end, will not on her side agree. The official papers of Vienna have hinted, as delicately as possible, that this will be Hungary's last chance; and the Hungarians ought to reflect that, if they will not make peace with Austria, they will find it difficult, and indeed impossible, to gain anything from her by warlike means. The jealousy between Magyars, Sclavonians, and Germans, much as it has agitated Austria, has yet been the means of keeping her together, and it will always save her from complete and irremediable revolution. In 1848, as long as the fidelity of the Sclavonians to the Imperial throne was doubtful, the Hungarians assured the house of Hapsburg of their devotion; and it was not until they saw the Court was inclined towards the Sclavonians that they rose in insurrection. Now, though all the German subjects of Austria are opposed to the Hungarian demands, the Government is evidently disposed, as far as possible, to accede to them; and it is to be hoped that the Hungarians will know how to turn this willingness to account without claiming too much, which would be to spoil everything.

#### SIR WILLIAM FERCUSSON, F.R.S.

THE great British surgeon, Professor Fergusson, upon whom a baronetcy has just been conferred, was born near Edinburgh, in 1808. He was educated at the High School and the University of Edinburgh, where he joined the College of Surgeons in 1828. He settled in London in 1840. He is Professor of Surgery at King's College, London; Surgeon to King's College Hospital; Surgeon Extraordinary to her Majesty; was also Surgeon to H.R.H. the late Prince Consort; and is the author of a "System of Practical Surgery," which has come to be a text-book in the profession.

Sir William Fergusson is, perhaps, the greatest surgeon in England, and, except M. Nelaton, has probably no rival as an operator in Europe. His perfect knowledge of the anatomy of the human frame, his skill in the use of his instruments, his perfect coolness and steadiness of nerve, and his kindly and sympathetic manner with his patients, combine to secure to him the unlimited confidence of all who have occasion to require his professional services; while his tact in conveying instruction makes him an invaluable teacher of the art of which he is so perfect a master.

It will be recollected that on the occasion of the visit of Garibaldi to this country, Sir William Fergusson was consulted as to the state of the hero's health, and the probable effects of continued excitement on a frame already severely shattered by the wound received at Aspromonte, and that Sir William gave it as his opinion that the General was not in a condition to encounter the fatigues of the continued ovations which the programme drawn up implied. This advice was commented on at the time by a set of busybodies, who hoped to obtain some degree of notoriety for themselves by having their names associated, even for a moment, with that of the great Italian Liberator; and the matter has again been recently revived by a correspondent in the columns of a daily contemporary, in order to discredit the statement made by Sir W. Fergusson that a veritable case of mutilation by the negroes of Jamaica had come under his notice. This effort, however, to discredit an eminent man needs only to be mentioned to be frustrated. The advice given by Sir William in reference to Garibaldi was acknowledged by all sensible men at the time to be wise and prudent; and the subsequent sufferings of the gallant Italian prove that it was so. And as for the case of the Jamaica mutilation, the sneers of anonymous correspondents who do not even know the name of the man about whom they write, but who, as in the case referred to, confound "Sir J. Ferguson" with "Sir William Fergusson," will count for little against a man of whom Great Britain and the world are alike proud.

#### SIR RODERICK IMPEY MURCHISON.

THE distinguished President of the Royal Geographical Society, one of the most eminent men of science in existence, who has lately been advanced to the rank of Baronet, is the eldest son of Kenneth Murchison, Esq., of Tarradale, Rose-shire, where he was born, in 1792. He was educated at Durham Grammar School, and at the Military College of Marlow; and received the honorary degree of M.A. from the Universities of Cambridge and Durham. He was an officer in the Army from 1807 to 1816; serving in Spain and Portugal with the 36th Foot; afterwards on the staff of his uncle, General Sir Alex. Mackenzie; and, lastly, as Captain in the 6th Dragoons. So early as 1831, Mr. Murchison applied himself to a systematic examination of the older sedimentary deposits in England and Wales, and after five years' labour he succeeded in establishing what he calls the Silurian system, comprehending a succession of strata which lie beneath the old red sandstone, and seem to be in close approximation to the deposits that preceded the existence of plants and animals. This system (named from its occupying those countries which formed the ancient kingdom of the Silures) is divided into the Upper Silurian, consisting of Ludlow and Wenlock rocks; and the Lower Silurian, of Caradoc and Llandovery rocks. The same succession of strata was found in the west of Europe, and in North and South America; and Mr. Murchison next traced the extension of the Silurian system to Norway and Sweden, and particularly to the vast empire of European Russia, where the relative position of the older rocks has suffered little or no disturbance from the intrusive agency of fire. Under the countenance of the Imperial Government, Mr. Murchison, in company with M. de Verneuil and Count Keyserling, in 1840, commenced a geological survey of the Russian empire, having previously explored several parts of Germany, Poland, and the Carpathians, as intermediate between the British and Russian deposits; and he next examined the Palæozoic rocks of Scandinavia. The results of the entire expedition were published in two large volumes in 1845. In 1841, upon the presentation of the first report upon this geological survey to the Emperor Nicholas, his Majesty presented Mr. Murchison with the decoration of the second class of St. Anne, in diamonds, and also with a magnificent colossal vase of Siberian aventurin, mounted on a column of porphyry. After three years' additional labour, Mr. Murchison completed his survey of Russia, when the Emperor conferred upon him the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Stanislaus, and appointed him an effective member of the Imperial Academy of Sciences; and, upon his return to England, he received the honour of British knighthood. Sir Roderick has since published two editions of his "Siluria," an elaborate work. He has, besides, contributed upwards of 120 memoirs to the transactions of various scientific bodies, the most remarkable, perhaps, of which is his "Alps, Apennines, and Carpathians." In 1844, when bringing out his large work on the "Geological Structure of Russia," he instituted a comparison between the rocks of Eastern Australia and those of the auriferous Ural Mountains; and, as a result, he was the first who publicly declared the opinion that gold must exist in Australia. In 1846 he even urged some Cornish tin-miners to emigrate to New South Wales, and there obtain gold from the alluvial soil in the manner that they extracted tin from the gravel of their native country. In 1848 Sir Roderick addressed Earl Grey, then Secretary for the Colonies, and warmly urged the Government to adopt measures for the interest of the Crown. But his advice was not taken; and it was only in 1851, or three years later, that the so-called discovery of the Australian

gold took place. Sir Roderick has served four times as president of the Geological Society and eight years as president of the Royal Geographical Society. In May, 1864, he was re-elected president of the Royal Geographical Society; he is a Fellow of the Royal Society and the Linnean Society, and is a member of the Academies of St. Petersburg, Berlin, Copenhagen, Brussels, Stockholm, Turin; he has long been a trustee of the British Museum, the Hunterian Museum, and the British Association for the Advancement of Science, of which last body he was one of the founders, &c. In 1855 Sir Roderick succeeded Sir H. De la Beche in the office of director-general of the geological survey of the British Isles; and his latest labours have been repeated examinations of the rocks of his native Highlands, for which the Royal Society of Edinburgh conferred on him their first Brisbane gold medal. The Copley medal, or first honour of the Royal Society of London, was awarded to him in 1846. In recent years Sir Roderick made another great addition to British geology by establishing the existence in the north-western Highlands of the fundamental stratified deposits of the United Kingdom, these, the so-called Laurentian rocks, being older than the Cambrian or Silurian systems. In 1863 he obtained the honour of a commandership of the Bath; in 1864 he received the Prix Cuvier from the French Institute and the Wollaston Medal at home for his geological labours.

### Foreign Intelligence.

#### FRANCE.

M. van Praet has had an audience of the Emperor to notify the accession of Leopold II. to the Belgian throne. His Imperial Majesty repeated his profound regret at the death of Leopold I., and assured M. van Praet that he sincerely sympathised both with the present King and with Belgium. The Emperor also received in private audience Mr. Albert Grant, managing director of the Crédit Foncier and Mobilier in England.

#### SPAIN.

Another military revolt has broken out in Spain. Two incomplete regiments of cavalry stationed at Aranjuez and Ocaña revolted on the morning of the 4th. Three of the superior and the majority of the other officers took no part in the movement. Immediately upon receipt of intelligence of the movement in Madrid, General Zabala, Minister of Marine, set out with a strong column in pursuit of the insurgents, who are reported to be instigated by General Prim, who had left Madrid and placed himself at the head of the movement. The revolted troops, after various manoeuvres, and destroying a portion of a railway and a bridge over the Tagus, had retreated towards the mountains of Toledo. Another detachment of troops revolted at Avila, but, as is stated from Madrid, had been compelled to retreat into Portugal, where they were disarmed. The news allowed to be published is so very meagre, and in some respects contradictory, that it is difficult to form any clear idea either of the intentions or the movements of the insurgents; but it is believed that the object of the revolt is to compel a change of Ministry. One report, however, states that cries had been raised for the union of Iberia—that is, the junction of Spain and Portugal under the dynasty of the latter.

Troops under Generals Zabala, Concha, Echaque, and others were operating against the insurgents; and a report prevailed in Madrid, on the 9th, that Prim had defeated Concha, and that Marshal Serrano had gone to the assistance of the latter. Several newspapers in Madrid had been suppressed, and others were published with large portions of the sheet blank. Martial law had been proclaimed in New Castile and Valencia, and the clubs, cafés, political societies, &c., had either been closed or placed under military surveillance. O'Donnell had declared in the Cortes that the Government were aware that a widespread conspiracy existed, but that measures had been taken which would certainly defeat the movement. A strong spirit of disaffection has shown itself at Barcelona, and the military fired on the people, of whom several were killed and wounded.

The Portuguese Government has ordered any Spanish insurgents who may take refuge in Portugal to be disarmed and confined at Coimbra.

The Government proposed that General Prim should be degraded from his rank in the army, and the Queen is said to have signed a decree to that effect.

#### ITALY.

A Royal decree was issued on Wednesday proroguing the Italian Parliament till the 22nd inst. The decree is preceded by a Ministerial report explaining that this measure has been adopted in order that the Government may conscientiously examine the important financial and other proposals of the late Ministry, with the object of determining what portions of the said proposals shall be accepted and what portions shall be modified. Upon the reassembling of the Chambers, the Ministry will immediately bring before them the chief bases of the system by which it proposes to provide for the present state of the finances.

It is officially announced that nearly all the brigands on Roman territory have surrendered to the Papal authorities since the promulgation of the edict concerning brigandage.

#### AUSTRIA.

It seems as if the union between Transylvania and Hungary would really be accomplished. An Imperial prescript has prorogued the Transylvanian Diet, and ordered the deputies to appear at the Diet at Pesth. There is no doubt the question of union will be discussed. A deputation had visited Vienna and invited the Emperor to Buda. Her Majesty promised to visit the Hungarian capital at an early date.

The Emperor has addressed an autograph letter to Count Belcredi remitting the punishment of those persons belonging to the former Lombardo-Venetian Kingdom who had illegally emigrated. The sequestered property of such persons will be restored to the owners, and all legal proceedings in reference thereto still pending are to be quashed. The Governor of Venice is empowered to release the aforesaid persons from their allegiance to the Austrian throne, as well as to permit them to return to Austria free of penalty, and also to reinstate them in their rights of Austrian citizenship, provided petitions to that effect be sent in within the course of the year.

#### THE UNITED STATES.

We have advices from New York to the 30th ult.

The Radical Republican party, through Senator Wilson, had made an attempt to bully the President and frighten him out of his reconstruction policy by threatening to withdraw their support if he interfered with congressional legislation on the subject. The attempt, however, failed, for the President refused to give any assurance that he would refrain from interference.

The provisional Governors of North Carolina and Mississippi have been removed, and the Governors elect directed to assume office. The Governors of North and South Carolina, upon assuming office, telegraphed to President Johnson the assurance of their unalterable purpose to aid in upholding the Federal laws.

General Strong, who had returned from Texas, reports fearful destitution among the black and white inhabitants. Lawlessness and crime, as well as a spirit of secession and of hostility to the Government, prevailed throughout the interior.

Mr. Seward had set out on a trip to the West Indies for the benefit of his health.

Captain Semmes had been arrested by order of the Government on the ground of having, during his fight with the Kearsarge, hoisted the white flag, and escaped under cover of a cessation of hostilities. Captain Semmes claimed to have been included in the Sherman-Johnston capitulation.

All the correspondence with France on the Mexican question was to be laid before Congress as soon as it reassembled. It was again reported in New York that the French Government had assured the United States Government that the French troops will withdraw

from Mexico on the latter giving its assurance that it will not interfere with the Emperor Maximilian's occupancy of the Mexican throne.

The owners of the ship *Nora*, in consequence of the repudiation by the British Government of the claim for damages for her destruction by the *Alabama*, had appealed to the Federal Government to support them in their claim, since they, as private citizens, have no other means of redress.

#### MEXICO.

Advices from Vera Cruz to the 16th ult., via Havannah, announce that 1200 French troops arrived on the 6th, and were immediately sent into the field. The defences of the city on the land side were being strengthened, and heavier guns had been mounted on the Castle of San Juan Ulloa. The Imperialists had routed Escobedo at some distance from Monterey. Escobedo escaped with an escort of twenty men. The French had re-occupied Chihuahua and held Piedras Negras. The Republican Judge of the Supreme Court has abandoned Juarez, and protested against the prolongation of his presidency after the expiration of its Constitutional term.

#### CHINA.

A telegram from Shanghai gives some rather alarming news. It is that the anti-foreign party at Peking were gaining power and endeavouring to carry out an exclusive policy. Articles of war were being manufactured in large quantities. Sir Rutherford Alcock had, however, arrived at Peking, and it is to be hoped that he will be able to settle all difficulties.

#### INDIA.

According to advices from Bombay to the 13th ult., many reports are current of commotions in the Afghan States and along the Punjab frontier. No apprehension was, however, entertained of the British territory being disturbed. Some doubt was felt respecting the stability of the Bhootan treaty of peace. There was some fear of a famine in Bengal, as scarcity prevailed in the central provinces.

#### NEW ZEALAND.

By way of Sydney we have news from New Zealand which tells of many fights with the natives. At Opotiki several of the Maories had been shot, and among them one of the murderers of M. Volker. The Kawa Pah had been captured, the rebels suffering great loss. At Poverty and Hawkes Bays the natives were laying down their arms.

#### JAMAICA.

We have news from Jamaica to the 18th of December. A bill for transferring the control of the colony of Jamaica entirely to the Home Government had been introduced in the House of Assembly, read for the first time, and ordered for second reading.

In the House of Assembly, on the 12th of December, a despatch from Mr. Cardwell to Governor Eyre was read, expressing the concern of her Majesty and the Government at the rebellion, deploring the barbarities and loss of life, and recognising with satisfaction the alacrity with which the authorities, the naval and military officers, the police, the volunteers, and the citizens had combined for the preservation of order. The despatch also praises the conduct of the maroons.

The Jamaica papers report movements of the troops, and the arrest of several men for drilling secretly with firearms.

### THE COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH AUSTRIA.

THE following is the Treaty of Commerce between her Majesty and the Emperor of Austria, with the final protocol signed at Vienna, Dec. 16, 1865 (ratifications exchanged at Vienna, Jan. 4, 1866):—

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, on the one part, and his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, King of Hungary and Bohemia, &c., on the other part, being equally animated by the desire of regulating and extending the commercial relations between their respective States and possessions, have resolved to conclude a treaty for that purpose, and have named for their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:—

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, &c., and Right Honourable John Arthur Douglas, Baron Bloomfield of Oakhampton and Redwood, a Peer of Ireland, a member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to his Imperial and Royal Apostolic Majesty. And his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, King of Hungary and Bohemia, &c., Alexander Count Mensdorff-Pouilly, Grand Cross of the Order of Leopold, with the military decoration belonging to the Commander's Cross of the same Order, Knight of the Order of Maria Theresa, and Possessor of the Cross of Military Merit, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Lieutenant-General of his Imperial Majesty's Army, Privy Councillor and Chamberlain, Minister of the Imperial House and of Foreign Affairs; and Bernhard, Baron Willersdorf-Urbair, Knight of the Order of the Iron Crown of the Second Class, Rear-Admiral in his Imperial Majesty's Navy, Privy Councillor, and Minister for Commerce; who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found to be in due and proper form, have agreed upon and concluded the following articles:—

Art. 1. During the continuance of the present treaty the subjects and commerce of Austria shall enjoy within all the dominions and possessions of her Britannic Majesty, including her Majesty's colonies and foreign possessions, the same advantages which have been conceded to French subjects and commerce by the treaty between her Majesty and the Emperor of the French, signed at Paris on the 23rd of January, 1860, and to the subjects and commerce of the States of the Zollverein by the treaty between her Majesty and his Majesty the King of Prussia, representing the sovereign States and territories united to the Prussian system of customs and contributions, signed at Berlin on the 30th of May, 1855; and, further, Austrian subjects and commerce shall be placed in all other respects on the footing of the subjects and commerce of the most favoured nation.

Art. 2. From and after the 1st of January, 1867, British subjects and commerce shall, within the dominions of his Imperial and Royal Majesty, be placed in every respect upon the footing of the most favoured nation, and share in all the advantages and favours which are enjoyed by the subjects of any third Power.

From this rule are excepted:—

(a.) Advantages such as those which, for the sole purposes of facilitating frontier traffic, are at present conceded, or may hereafter be conceded, to the States of the German Zollverein, or to other neighbouring States; and also those reductions of or exemptions from customs duties which are valid only at certain parts of the frontier, or for the inhabitants of particular localities.

(b.) Those advantages which belong, or may hereafter be conceded, to the subjects of the German Confederation, in virtue of federal treaties and federal laws.

(c.) Those special and ancient privileges which are enjoyed by Turkish subjects, as such, for Turkish commerce in Austria.

Art. 3. The Austrian Customs' Tariff (the present system of calculating customs duties by weight being maintained) shall be so regulated that the duty to be levied upon articles the produce or manufacture of the dominions of her Britannic Majesty, upon their importation into the Austrian States, shall, from the 1st of January, 1867, not exceed 25 per cent of the value, with the addition of the cost of transport, insurance, and commission necessary for the importation into Austria as far as the Austrian customs' frontier; and for this purpose there shall serve as basis the average value of the articles included under one and the same denomination in each position of the future Austrian tariff. From and after the 1st of January, 1870, the maximum of these duties shall not exceed 20 per cent of the value, with the additions above defined. The articles of State monopolies (tobacco, salt, gunpowder), and, further, the goods comprised in classes 1 and 7 of the present Austrian tariff, are excepted from these maxima.

Art. 4. Commissioners from both Governments shall meet, not later than the month of March, 1866, for the purpose of ascertaining and determining the values and additional charges, and they shall take as the basis of their calculations the average prices at the principal centres of production and commerce of the United Kingdom for the year 1865. Three years after the duties fixed by treaty shall have come into operation, each of the contracting parties shall have a right to claim a revision of the values.

Art. 5. Those duties of the future Austrian tariff to come into operation on the 1st of January, 1867, to which England attaches a special interest, shall form the subject of a supplementary convention to be concluded between the two contracting parties. The articles of State monopoly, as also the goods subject to fiscal duties included in classes 1 and 7 of the present tariff, remain also here excepted.

Art. 6. Internal imposts which are levied in the territory of one party on the production, preparation, or use of any article, whether on account of the State, or on account of municipalities and corporations, shall under no pretext affect the productions of any other party in a higher or more onerous degree than the same productions of native origin.

Art. 7. The contracting parties agree that every reduction in their



tariffs of import or export duties, and every privilege, favour, or immunity which either contracting party may hereafter grant to the subjects and commerce of a third Power shall be extended immediately and unconditionally to the other contracting party, with a reserve, however, of the exceptions enumerated in article 2, a and b.

Art. 8. The subjects of one of the contracting parties shall enjoy in the dominions and possessions of the other equality of treatment with native subjects in regard to charges on loading and unloading, to warehousing, and to the transit trade, as also in regard to bounties, facilities, and drawbacks.

Art. 9. The subjects of one of the two high contracting Powers shall in the dominions of the other enjoy the same protection as native subjects in regard to the rights of property in trade marks, and other distinctive marks, as well as in patterns and designs for manufactures.

Art. 10. The high contracting parties reserve to themselves to determine hereafter, by a special convention, the means of reciprocally protecting copyright in works of literature and the fine arts within their respective dominions.

Art. 11. The present treaty shall remain in force for the space of ten years, to date from the 1st of January, 1867; and in case neither of the high contracting Powers shall have notified to the other, twelve months before the expiration of the said period of ten years, the intention to put an end to its operation, the treaty shall continue in force for another year, and so on from year to year, until the expiration of a year counting from the day on which one or other of the high contracting parties shall have announced its intention to put an end to it. The high contracting parties reserve to themselves the right to introduce, by common consent, into this treaty any modification which is not opposed to its spirit and principles, and the utility of which shall have been shown by experience.

Art. 12. The present treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged in Vienna, in three weeks, or sooner if possible.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms. Done at Vienna, this 16th day of December, 1865.

#### FINAL PROTOCOL.

Upon proceeding to the signature of the Treaty of Commerce concluded this day between Great Britain and Austria, the Plenipotentiaries of the two Powers made the following declarations:—

1. The Plenipotentiaries of his Majesty the Emperor of Austria declared that in virtue of article 13 of the Treaty of Customs and Contributions, Union of the 23rd of December, 1863, between Austria and Liechtenstein, the Treaty of Commerce concluded this day would apply equally to the Principality of Liechtenstein, and the British Plenipotentiary accepted this declaration.

2. In order to avoid any future doubts as to the intention of article 3, the Plenipotentiaries of the two Powers agreed to the explanation:—

In the construction of a tariff of specific duties by weight within fixed *ad valorem* rates it is necessary to determine what shall be the unit of value to which each specific duty shall be applied.

In adopting the basis of value established by article 3 it is understood that it is not intended to depart from the general principle of the article—viz., the application of certain maximum *ad valorem* rates of duty to all articles of British produce and manufacture, but to guard against the necessity of making separate provision for every variety of each article, thereby creating minute and inconvenient subdivisions in the tariff.

With this view it becomes necessary to group together those different qualities and descriptions of the same article or of similar articles which, from their approximation in value and general resemblance in character, it is found possible to include under one and the same denomination in one position of the tariff.

But it is understood that in fixing the denominations in each position of the future Austrian tariff, they shall be so arranged that the duty affixed to any one position shall not exceed the maximum rates fixed by article 3 of the treaty upon the average value of any kind of goods of commercial importance included under any one denomination in such position, unless by common consent it is considered expedient or necessary.

3. With reference to article 4, the Plenipotentiaries likewise agreed that, if it shall be found that the prices of any kinds of goods have been essentially disturbed by exceptional causes during the twelve months of the year 1865, the Commissioners of the two Governments shall endeavour to find such a basis of value as shall be considered to correspond to a fair average value for future years.

In the case of textile manufactures (the prices of which have been seriously deranged during the late war in the United States of America), it is agreed that, if the average prices of the year 1865 be taken as a basis of value, either contracting party may claim a revision of such valuation after the 1st of January, 1866.

4. The British Plenipotentiary then declared that her Britannic Majesty engages to recommend to Parliament the abolition of the duties payable on the importation of wood and timber into the United Kingdom, and also the reduction of the duties payable on wine in bottle to the amount of those payable on wine in wood upon importation into the United Kingdom.

5. The Imperial Austrian Plenipotentiaries on their part declared that the duty upon the export of rags from the States and possessions of his Imperial and Royal Majesty shall, from and after the 1st of July, 1866, be reduced to two florins the zolcentner, and that the duty upon the importation of salted herrings into the States and possessions of his Imperial and Royal Majesty shall, from the 1st of February, 1866, be reduced to fifty kreutzers per zolcentner, gross weight.

#### "OUTDOOR RELIEF."

A DEER is a prettier object than a pauper, although we have seen pauper children hidden away in the great bare, blank ward of a metropolitan union who were well worth looking at; and, save for a premature dulness and relaxation of feature which had somehow eclipsed the free and charming expression of genuine childhood—just as a gruel diet bleaches out the ruddy apple hue of a chubby cheek—were fresh, bright little rogues, with whom one might have liked to have a good romp.

If a deer be prettier than a pauper, a pony—nay, even a cart-horse, well kept and decently groomed—is immeasurably superior in appearance to a "casual;" and, to tell the truth, anyone who has been in the habit of visiting tolerably-appointed stables must always have come away with the impression that a horse was as much more valuable than a man or a woman as the accommodation and food provided for his comfort were altogether superior.

Possibly even the poor-law guardian is merciful to his beast; and if a relieving officer ever keeps a dog—which is quite a likely circumstance—it may be imagined that he actually gives it an extra bone now and then, in addition to its legal allowance of a bundle of tripe a day.

These thoughts are somehow suggested not by the scene represented in our engraving, but by the title selected for it; and out there, on the bright, open park land, with the sleek, soft-eyed beauties coming with that graceful undulating trot, their long ears cocked to listen to the approach of the cart-wheels, and their graceful little feet tinkling over the crisp, frosty ground, such suggestions seem strangely out of place.

These wild skittish creatures, who in the summer time would snuff at you from a safe distance and throw back their graceful heads with a coquetish start before they broke away into a pretended fright, are quite amenable to good-fellowship in cold hungry weather, and, as they scent the sweet fodder from afar, come trooping up till you can touch their velvet noses, and find yourself enveloped in a cloud from their fragrant breath.

There is no excursion of all the winter time more delightful than that of going out with the light wagon into that glorious woodland so bright and sparkling; every tree hung with frozen gems, and the fantastic lacework and tracery of the hoar frost melting slowly into crystal drops as you brush the hedgerows on your way through the lanes where the echoes of the horse's hoofs ring sharp and clear in the wintry air. Such an excursion in Hamstead Park, Berkshire, the estate of Lord Craven, was the origin of the sketch from which our engraving is taken; and we could wish for all our readers an enjoyment as keen as that which accompanied this jaunt for the purpose of administering "outdoor relief."

THE SOVEREIGNS OF EUROPE.—There are at the present moment forty-three reigning Sovereigns in Europe. Of that number ten belong to the Roman Catholic religion, but one is excommunicated; thirty are Protestants, one of the Greek orthodox Church, and one a Mohammedan; the forty-third is the Pope. The Catholics are, two Emperors of Austria and France; five Kings of Bavaria, Belgium, Spain (a Queen), Portugal, and Saxony; two Princes of Liechtenstein and Monaco; the excommunicated Sovereign is King Victor Emmanuel. The thirty Protestants are, eight Kings or Queens of England, Prussia, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Hanover, Greece, and Württemberg; six Grand-Dukes of Baden, Hesse-Darmstadt, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Oldenburg, and Saxe-Weimar; seven Dukes of Anhalt, Brunswick, Nassau-Saxe-Meiningen, Saxe-Altenburg, Saxe-Coburg, and Schleswig-Holstein; nine Princes of Lippe-Detmold, Lippe-Schauenburg, Reuss-Greiz, Reuss-Schleiz, Schwartzburg-Sonderhausen, and Waldeck; the Elector of Hesse-Cassel, and the Landgrave of Hesse-Homburg. The Greek orthodox Sovereign is the Emperor of Russia, and the Mussulman, the Sultan of Turkey. There are also seven republics in Europe; two exclusively Catholic—San Marino and Andorra; and five in which the majority of the inhabitants are Protestants—Switzerland, Hamburg, Bremen, Frankfurt, and Lübeck.

## THE PANTOMIMES.

COVENT GARDEN.

FOR the pantomime opening at the Royal Italian Opera Mr. E. L. Blanchard has selected the story of Aladdin—a story so popular that we need not repeat it, the more especially as Mr. Blanchard has adhered pretty closely to the old legend. The principal character, Aladdin, is sustained with great vivacity by Miss Rachel Sanger. A more charming young rake than she makes it would not be easy to imagine, and the affection of the widow for the scapegrace is quite intelligible. The part of that worthy woman, relic of the deceased Mustapha, is most admirably acted by Mr. Charles Steyne, whose grotesque embodiment of the trials and sorrows of a lone creature was full of humour, and yet could hardly be said to be unfeminine. But, if Aladdin be fortunate in having such a mother, he is even more enviable on account of the charming Princess bestowed on him in the transformation scene by the good Fairy Diamond. The Princess Badroulbador has not much to say, it is true; but she should look lovely, and does, as impersonated by Miss Blanche Elliston. When we say that the part of Abanazar, the African magician, falls to Mr. W. H. Payne; and that Mr. Fred Payne is Kazrac, the dumb, "but honest," attendant of the wicked wonder-worker, our readers will understand at once the superlative pantomime and dumbshow, the rapid strokes of business, the fine feats of tumbling that take place when Abanazar and his slave are on the stage. The scenery throughout is excellent. A street in Canton is represented with the shops open, and traders and customers engaged in selling and buying, with an air of reality that almost makes us pause to ask whether we have not been transported to the native land of Chang. Another very charming scene is the Garden of Jewels, where golden palms are laden with ruby pippins and pearl pears. The manner in which the Genius of the Lamp—a giant, before whom a joint-stock amalgamation of Chang and Anak would dwindle into insignificance—bears off the palace of Aladdin to Africa, is a capital contrived scene. As the Genius soars up with the magnificent pile on his shoulders, a calm, moonlit sea is revealed beyond with an effect as startling as it is pleasing. The transformation scene is a triumph of mechanism as well as art. It would be almost impossible to describe how the leafy labyrinth gives place to the coral depths of a lake on whose bosom float numberless water-lilies; how the lake subsides, and the branching corals with clusters of fays branch out into an enormous fan; how other fays emerge from pearly shells; and how, finally, the car of Phoebus, the Bright Lamp of Day, with its four pawing steeds, mounts in dazzling brilliance at the back of the vast stage. It would be impossible to close our mention of the Covent Garden pantomime without bestowing a word of high praise on the two ballets which occur in it. We have seldom seen so much fancy and elegance, so much taste in the harmonious blending of colours, as distinguish them. They might fairly be given as separate entertainments, and would be quite strong enough to run alone. The Chinese ballet in particular is very varied and novel, but the dance of the jewels is also artistically arranged and very new in point of costume. In his transformations, although he departs a little from the established usage, Mr. Blanchard decidedly awards poetical justice. He dismisses Aladdin and Badroulbador to "live happy ever afterwards," without the necessity of jumping through Bennett's clock or being basket-tricked by Pantaloon. Kazrac becomes Harlequin, having for Columbine the transformed attendant of the Princess. Of the dancing of Mr. Frederick Payne and Mlle. Esta, as Harlequin and Columbine, of the drolleries of Mr. Harry Payne (retired conjuror) as Clown, and Mr. Paul Herring as Pantaloon and ex-Vizier, we have not space to speak at length. The comic business goes very smoothly—the tricks are telling, and several good hits are made, which are acknowledged by delighted audiences as they deserve to be.

#### ASTLEY'S.

The Christmas fare at this house appears under the somewhat stupendous title of "Harlequin Tom Tom, the Piper's Son, Pope Joan, and Little Bo-Peep; or, Old Daddy Long Legs, and the Pig that went to Market and the Pig that stayed at Home." The plot, of course, works upon all those nursery rhymes, but how they are connected it is difficult to tell. However, four fairies—Good Temper, Good Music, Good Cheer, and Good Fun, who are expected to preside over all Christmas festivities—remove every obstacle, and introduce the audience in due order to the Hazardous Pool of Pope Joan in The Palace of Diamonds, where is held a great congress of cards, dominoes, and dice; The Interior of the Cottage of the Village Piper, whose son is Tom, the Piper's Son; Bo-Peep's Meadow, A Pork-pie Pavilion, and the Grand Hall in the Castle of Daddy Long Legs. Tom, having sworn to his lady-love, Bo-Peep, to punish Daddy Long Legs, who has stolen her sheep, there succeeds, by means of an enchanted whistle pipe, of which he becomes mysteriously possessed, in throwing the establishment into a general commotion and its respected owner down stairs, which feat being highly satisfactory to Bo-Peep, terminates that part of the performance, and transports the audience into a Fairy Haunt, in which Miss Caroline Parkes appears in the triple pantomime characters of Clown, Pantaloon, and Harlequin. Mr. E. T. Smith, the enterprising lessee, like Glendower, can "call spirits from the vasty deep," but he also shows how "they will come when he does call for them." Believing the resources of the land to be exhausted, he determined to search for novelty at the bottom of the sea, and so the curtain rises upon the Submarine Retreat of Mother of Pearl, where we are introduced to a large army of "finny-uns," comprising both cavalry and infantry, sprats, mackerel, herrings, turbot, &c., when the animated fishes are called upon to follow the fortunes of Tom the Piper's Son; and then again, in the transformation scene, we sink into the water, not amongst the fishes, however, but upon a coral reef, the haunt of nymphs. This scene is probably one of the finest which has been placed upon the stage. It opens with a view of the coral reef through a thick hazy sea, in which gracefully-posed groups of nymphs appear to be floating. As the water becomes clear—an effect which is produced by raising singly a great number of gauze curtains—fresh objects, the faint and misty outlines of which before were alone visible, gradually develop themselves, until the whole becomes one blaze of light and beautifully-blended colours, which lose their unpleasant glare from the steadiness with which the intensity is increased. This extraordinary production, which must have exhausted the whole resources of both artists and mechanist, must be seen, as it is impossible by description to convey even a remote idea of its grandeur and at the same time remarkably pleasing effect. Mr. Smith and Mr. Charles Brew (the inventor, designer, and painter) were twice called before the curtain on the opening night. In the harlequinade several novelties are introduced, amongst which are an exceedingly clever one-legged dancer, called "Le Frère Donato," and "The Infant Wonder," George Parkes, with his performing pony. The dresses, appointments, and, in fact, the entire pantomime, are deserving of the highest praise, and will, no doubt, draw full houses during the whole of the season.

#### ST. JAMES'S.

Can anything be conceived more dreadful than not being ready with a pantomime on "Boxing Night"? We mean, of course, for a theatrical manager. Yet this was the case with Miss Herbert on the 26th of December, when, by her own confession, she was "in a fix." "King Pippins" were ready; "Pipers' Sons" were ready; "Cock-a-doodle-doo" was ready; but not so Miss Herbert. Why or how all this came to pass we are not in a condition to relate accurately, neither does it much concern the public; for Miss Herbert's excellent company of comedians came to the rescue, or put their shoulders to the managerial wheel, as the playbill has it, and the result was a most amusing entertainment—a sort of parody upon a pantomime, entitled "Please to Remember the Grotto," the chief parts in which were sustained by Messrs. F. Matthews, Belton, Charles, Robson, Sanger, Brown; Mmes. Colinson, Hyde, and Miss Herbert. The idea is not new. Indeed, "Remember the Grotto" is little more than a fresh edition, by Messrs. Oxenford and Emden, of Tom Dibdin's extravaganza, entitled "Harlequin Hoax," originally pro-

duced at the old English Opera House, in August, 1814. "I was paid," says Tom Dibdin, in his autobiography, "fifty pounds for 'Harlequin Hoax,' and I sold the copyright for thirty-five." It was written on the plan of "The Rehearsal" and "The Critic." The hero was one Peter Patch, who, as the pantomime poet, made his entrance on the stage through a trap-door, and prevailed on the manager to get up a pantomime called "Hot Codlins; or, Harlequin Fiehmonger." The piece gained great popularity. But to return to Miss Herbert, whose troubles, and the manner in which they were vanquished, our readers probably understand by this time. "Please to Remember the Grotto" charmed the house at once by its fresh, unconventional character. It was felt to be a relief from the old-fashioned diversions of this festive season, and was received accordingly. But with novelty of form is combined an amount of genuine wit rarely found in pieces of this description; and thus, while there is enough that is obvious and external to fascinate the million, those of severer taste may find much to surprise and delight them. The dialogue is indeed *petillant d'esprit* from end to end, superior to that furnished by most "smart writers" who disport themselves annually in pantomime or burlesque, as one thing can be to another. Mr. Oxenford's delicately-pointed pen, if we mistake not greatly, is to be traced in nearly every line of the prologue to "Please to Remember the Grotto," where Miss Herbert, the fair manageress, appears in a "fix," from which she is ultimately extricated by the ingenuity of Peter Patch (Mr. Belmore), after having listened to a number of useless suggestions from Mr. Sanger, her stage manager, whose zeal does not appear to be seconded by superlative intelligence. Here favourable opportunities occurred for making allusions to the general condition of the drama, and the various entertainments against which theatrical managers have to contend, and we need scarcely add that these opportunities have been made the most of. With the commencement of the pantomimic action, after the transformation scene, the author's wit begins to decline; and thus the "comic business" becomes, as usual, the least comic part of the entertainment. There is, however, one capital scene on the Margate Sands, where oysters dance and a song full of genuine drollery is sung. Too much praise can scarcely be given to the performances of Mr. Frank Matthews, Mr. Belmore, Mr. Robson, Mr. Sanger, and Miss Colinson, who appear respectively as Clown, "pantomime part," Pantaloon, Harlequin, and Columbine. The rebellious airs of Miss Herbert's "legitimate associates," suddenly called upon to degrade themselves by playing in a harlequinade, and their subsequent efforts to accomplish the disgusting task in the most effective manner possible, could not have been more felicitously delineated. The piece is beautifully mounted, and praise is due to Mr. Musgrave for the appropriate music he has selected and arranged to suit the not very large vocal means of the performers.

#### SADLER'S WELLS.

The pantomime at this house, entitled "Cock-a-doodle-Do; or, Harlequin Prince Chanticleer and the Princess of the Golden Valley," is written by Mr. Charles Millward, and the plot is founded upon the adventures of a mysterious hero named Finfin (Miss Minnie Davis), the adopted son of Littlepet (Miss E. Nason), the chief of the Mannikins, who dwell in Wide-awake Hollow in the Island of Spring. Having fallen in love with Princess Rosyint (Miss Leigh), Finfin determines to seek his fortune in the world, notwithstanding that he is warned by his protectors, the Mannikins, that he will incur great danger, in the event of quitting his place of security, through the machinations of the ferocious and wicked magician Grinderpest (Mr. John Rouse), the King of the Chanticleers. On the eve of starting on his adventures, the Genius of Spring (Miss Fitzwilliam) appears and instructs him to proceed to the Golden Valley, where he will be safe from his enemies. At the same time she presents him with three enchanted roses, whose magic power will protect him in three out of four great perils he will have to encounter in his journey. His first great peril is incurred in rescuing Princess Rosyint from the violence of Grinderpest, who has captured her in one of his marauding excursions. By throwing down one of the magic roses, he transfixes Grinderpest and his followers to the spot, and escapes with his betrothed from Chanticleer Castle, of which he has discovered that he is the rightful owner. The fugitives, having parted with the second rose to save themselves from starvation, are then entertained by Queen Bountiful, who is no other than Littlepet in a more attractive form, in Arcadian Bower, in the Valley of Golden Autumn, where refreshment is afforded them in the shape of a grand fairy ballet. Grinderpest, having stolen a march upon the runaways, places his followers in ambush, and entraps them on the summit of a mountain pass, or rather impass, where their further progress is barred by an awful gulf. This the third peril is escaped through the aid of the third rose, which Finfin throws down the precipice, when the Genius of Autumn (Miss Norman) builds a magic bridge across the yawning abyss, over which the lovers pass in safety, but which disappears on the approach of the enraged Grinderpest. After further adventures the lovers in dire distress appeal to the Spirit of Christmas, who turns out to be Grinderpest in disguise, and they are at once seized by his myrmidons. Grinderpest is proceeding to wreak his vengeance upon the hapless pair, when Littlepet appears in a third character as the Queen of the Golden Valley, announces herself as the mother of the Princess Rosyint, and explains that she has permitted the lovers to undergo these perils in order to test the faith of Finfin, who is really Prince Chanticleer, whose throne Grinderpest has usurped. The scene then changes to the Flight of the Seasons and Island of Seaweeds, in the kingdom of the Golden Valley, when Prince Chanticleer becomes Harlequin (Mr. Alfred Lauraine), Princess Rosyint Columbine (Miss Estra Montgomery), Prince Fortywinks, the son of Grinderpest, Clown (Mr. R. H. Kitchen), and Lord Kokolorum, a blood-thirsty courtier, Pantaloon (Mr. Paul Abbott). The harlequinade partakes more of the character of the old-fashioned than of the modern pantomime, the jokes being broader and more absurd than usual nowadays.

CLAREMONT.—On the death of the King of the Belgians Claremont reverted to the Crown, but to the Crown as represented by the Commissioners of Woods and Forests. This is in accordance with an Act of Parliament strict in its provisions. It is probable that in order, as it is their duty, to increase the State revenues as far as possible, the Commissioners of Woods would sell it for building purposes. Nor will it be possible to save it for other purposes, such as a Royal residence, except by a new Act of Parliament. Whether Ministers will propose such an Act next Session or not is uncertain; but it is by no means unlikely that they will determine to do so. With our numerous Royal family, it would not be undesirable to preserve Claremont.

FEMALE SUFFRAGE.—The ladies of the United States are determined to assert themselves in a political sense, and are signing memorials to Congress to grant them the right of voting. The following is a copy of one of the petitions presented to Congress, and which is said to have been numerously signed:—"The undersigned, women of the United States, respectfully ask an amendment of the Constitution that shall prohibit the several States from disfranchising any of their citizens on the ground of sex. In making our demand for suffrage, we would call attention to the fact that we represent 15,000,000 people—one half of the entire population of the country—intelligent, virtuous, native-born American citizens; and yet we are the only class who stand outside the pale of political recognition. The Constitution classes us as 'free people,' and counts us whole persons in the basis of representation; and yet we are governed without our consent, compelled to pay taxes without appeal, and punished for violations of law without choice of judge or juror. The experience of all ages, the declarations of the fathers, the statute laws of our own day, and the fearful revolution through which we have just passed, all prove the uncertain tenure of life, liberty, and property so long as the ballot—the only weapon of self-protection—is not in the hand of every citizen. Therefore, as you are now amending the Constitution, and in harmony with advancing civilisation, placing new safeguards round the individual rights of four millions of emancipated slaves, we ask that you extend the right of suffrage to women—the only remaining class of disfranchised citizens—and thus fulfil your Constitutional obligation—to guarantee to every State in the Union a Republican form of government. As all parties application of Republican principles must ever breed a complicated legislation, as well as a discontented people, we would pray your honourable body, in order to simplify the machinery of government and insure domestic tranquillity, that you legislate hereafter for persons, citizens, taxpayers, and not for class or caste. For justice and equality your petitioners will ever pray."

PHISISING PRINCIPLES





THE PANTOMIMES.



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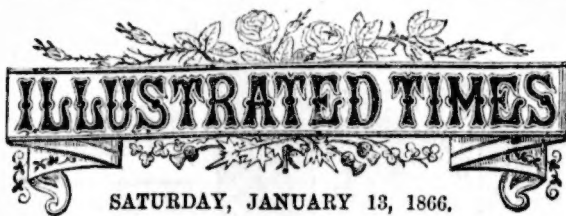
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SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1866.

## THE SAMPHIRE COLLISION.

"SLOW, but sure," is not a rule of action much attended to in this age. We are all in too great a hurry nowadays. We do not so much study how to do things well as how to do them quickly. We are all trying to find or to force a royal road to every sort of eminence. We are in a hurry to be learned, in a hurry to be rich, in a hurry to be great; and the result is that not a few of those who try become neither learned, rich, nor great. Above all things, we are in a hurry with our travelling and letter-carrying. We cannot wait a reasonable time to get either ourselves or our correspondence conveyed safely from one point to another. We must force operations; and, of course, the work is often ill done.

A striking illustration of this is afforded in the evidence taken during the investigation into the causes of the late collision in the Channel between the mail steam-ship Samphire and the American barque Fanny Buck. The Post Office authorities, desiring to have the mails conveyed quickly between England and the Continent, offer a premium of £5 for each time the passage is made within a given period; and the steam-boat companies and their officers, desiring to gain this premium, run their vessels at a rate of speed which is not consistent with safety. This was the case with the captain of the Samphire; and the Mayor of Dover thinks his conduct quite natural. Perhaps it is; but is it wise, whether it be "natural," in the Mayor's sense of the word or not, to place men in responsible positions under temptations to act in such a way as to imperil the lives of the passengers intrusted to their care? The rapid transmission of intelligence, and the speedy accomplishment of a journey, are both very desirable things in themselves; but safe performance of the work is more desirable still. And we think, therefore, that the premium on quick passages should be at once withdrawn, since it is admitted to be incompatible with the exercise of due caution, and the attainment of all possible safety. Better be a little surer, even though a little slower, than stick to a system of high speed and almost certain danger. The lives of numerous passengers, to say nothing of property, ought not to be risked for the sake of gaining fifteen minutes of time and a £5 premium. Let a reasonable time be fixed for the passage, and if that be adhered to, let us be content; but don't let our public officials stimulate men to rashness by the offer of premiums for extraordinary speed. It has been said that it is better to be wise than to be witty or wealthy; and it certainly is better to be safe than to be speedy. It is to be hoped that this fact will be remembered in future Post Office contracts, and that the lesson taught by the Samphire collision will not be disregarded.

## THE OCEAN HARVEST.

THE British public have been suffering lately from the high price of meat, and have been heartily, and justly, abusing the butchers in consequence. There has been no good reason as yet why the price of beef and mutton should have been so high to the consumers as it has ruled for some months past. The wholesale price has not advanced beyond that current in 1864, and therefore the retail price should also have remained stationary. But it has advanced enormously, and, consequently, John Bull has hitherto had a good cause for grumbling at the oleaginous individuals who make it their business to purvey for him his favourite article of food. This state of things, however, will not long hold good if the cattle plague continues to make the ravages among the herds of the land which it is at present doing. There will be a scarcity of meat, and when that happens the cost must be enhanced, let us grumble as we may. It will be wise, then, to look out for other sources for a supply of food.

The report of the Deep-Sea Fisheries Commission shows us where to find such a source. The ocean which surrounds our shores is stored with inexhaustible supplies of wholesome and nutritious food. We have only to go and take it. The sea is all before us where to choose; it is our own fault if we are forced to go upon "short commons." There lies stretched on all sides of these islands an estate of unlimited expanse, into possession of which any man may enter. This estate requires no cultivation. We need neither drain it, nor plough it, nor hoe it, nor sow it. It is subject to no rent, and is liable to no taxes. Crops grow in it free of cost or trouble. All we have to do is to reap them. Why don't we do this to the fullest possible extent? We hear much talk among agriculturists about overcropping the land; but it seems we cannot overcrop the sea. At least we have never done so hitherto. We have never fished the sea as the sea can very well afford to be fished. That is what the Commissioners tell us. It is time we made a little more of the

fine property at our command. To be sure, we have fishermen on our coasts; but their labours are circumscribed, and are not well, or not sufficiently well, directed. Much more can be done. Then why don't we do it? A great boon may be conferred upon the public; and a great deal of money may be made in conferring it. Fishing, no doubt, is a somewhat dangerous pursuit; but so is, to some extent, every other. Lives are lost at sea; but not more, nor so many, as in the streets of London.

We have in our midst men who will engage in any enterprise, however hazardous, provided it be profitable. And fishing, it appears, is profitable—much more profitable than it is hazardous. With proper means and appliances, and by observance of reasonable precautions, the pursuit is capable of being made much more productive and much less dangerous than it is now. Again, we ask, why is this grand ocean estate of ours not better cultivated? We have joint-stock companies, limited and unlimited, for all sorts of purposes. Why should we not have joint-stock fishing companies? The risk is comparatively trifling, and the profits that may accrue altogether unlimited. Who will go in and reap those profits, and at the same time share the fame of him who makes two blades of grass grow where only one grew before? The field of operations is open to all who choose to adventure upon it; and a certain and remunerative market for the produce exists. Englishmen want food, and are both able and willing to pay for it. He, therefore, who brings it to them will do well for himself and for them. We want some one to ventilate this matter, and rouse speculators to an appreciation of the benefits to be derived from engaging in the enterprise. What has become of Mr. H. Dempster, who, some years ago, was wont to make miserable the lives of the officials at the Scottish Fisheries Board, and of the editors of Scotch newspapers, by insisting, in reason and out of season, on the importance of deep-sea fishing? We fear Mr. Dempster has gone the way of all flesh; and that a successor is required to the prophet. Who will take up the mantle of Elijah, and preach a crusade against the sin and folly of leaving the great Ocean Harvest imperfectly reaped?

MR. GOSCHEN.—The statement put forth by more than one of our contemporaries, to the effect that Mr. Goschen "has been offered and has accepted a seat in the Cabinet, with the office of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster," is not true. No such offer has been made, nor, of course, has it been accepted. Similar reports as to certain promotions consequent on Mr. Goschen's elevation are still more inconsistent with the facts of the case. Various arrangements in reference to the vacant office have, we believe, been under consideration, and the right honourable gentleman's name has been mentioned with others for the particular vacancy, with every probability that he will turn out to be the one selected for the approval of her Majesty. Nor is it to be supposed that the offer, should it be made, will be declined.—*Telegraph.*

LANCASHIRE RELIEF FUND.—The Mansion House Committee formed four years ago for the relief of distress in Lancashire held its last meeting on Tuesday. It appeared from the report that considerably over half a million sterling had been received, and the greater portion of it distributed, together with a large amount of clothing, blankets, &c. There was still nearly £10,000 in hand. A proposal was made to form out of this sum the nucleus of a fund for improving the dwellings of the poor; but the majority of the committee were of opinion that they had no power to divert the money of the subscribers to other objects than that for which it was subscribed; so they agreed to lock it up in the fund.

GENERAL PRIM.—General Prim Count de Reus, author of the new *pro-nunciamento* in Spain, was born in 1811. He was for a long time considered as one of the chiefs of the Christians. The war in the East, in which he took an active part, on the Danube, and the preliminaries of Soledad—when a convention was drawn up between France, Spain, and England, and Juarez, which put an end to the first phase of the Mexican expedition, have made him more especially known in Europe and in America. For the last two years he has passed for the director of that fraction of the Progressist party which goes by the name of "Iberian," and which meditates the unity of the whole Peninsula under the house of Braganza.

FENIAN INSIGNIA.—In the old Repeal times the members of Daniel O'Connell's society were distinguished by wearing a button on their breasts called the Repeal button, ornamented with shamrocks and the usual harp. The Fenians are reviving the badge, which has been originated again in New York, and has appeared in Ireland. The Fenian "button" is the size of a shilling, and consists of a gilt Irish harp on a ground of green silk. A brooch also of an emblematic character has been introduced. One of the Cork papers alleges that O'Donovan (Rossa) has been flogged at Dartmoor, for "cursing the Queen, and execrating the tyranny of British rule." [This story is doubtful. The Fenian prisoners are not at Dartmoor, but at Pentonville.]

DEATH OF FREDERICA BREMER.—Intelligence has reached England from Stockholm announcing the death of this distinguished authoress. Miss Bremer was born at Abo, near Åbo, in Finland, about the year 1802. Her father was a merchant at that place, but on Finland being ceded three years later to Russia he removed with his family to Sweden, and finally spent the winter in the capital. Great care was taken with Frederica's education, and when she was old enough she became a teacher in private families. How long her time and talents were engaged in this laborious *metier* we know not; but in the year 1842 the English literary world was agreeably surprised by the publication of "The Neighbours," a picture of domestic life in Sweden, which strongly recommended itself by its quaintness and originality. Encouraged by the favourable reception accorded to this novel, Mrs. Mary Howitt, its translator, introduced to the English reading public "The Home," "The Diary," "The H. Family," "The President's Daughter," and several other tales, which were unusually well received. Miss Bremer's reputation had by this time become European, most of her works having been translated into German, French, and Italian, as well as English. Later in life she travelled a good deal, and visited Germany, France, England, America, Italy, and the East. Her Transatlantic experiences she gave to the world under the title of "Homes of the New World," which was published in 1853. In 1856 she wrote "Hortis," a romance, and in 1860 "Two Years in Switzerland and Italy." From Italy she went, in 1861, to the Holy Land, returning thence by way of Greece.

BISHOP COLENSO AT NATAL.—The *Natal Times* gives particulars of the incidents which have occurred in that locality since the return of Bishop Colenso. On Nov. 17 the churchwardens of the cathedral handed to his Lordship a protest against his preaching on the following Sunday, and, as it became known that his entrance to the cathedral on that day would be forcibly resisted, affidavits on the subject were laid, on his behalf, before the Chief Justice late on Saturday night, and his Lordship was asked for an interdict restraining the Dean and churchwardens from locking the cathedral doors. An interdict was granted and served on the churchwardens at eleven o'clock at night. A large crowd assembled in front of the cathedral on the following (Sunday) morning. The bell-ropes had been removed by order of the Dean, but one of the Bishop's faithful partisans managed to climb up and attach another rope. At eleven o'clock the Bishop approached the vestry-door, but was refused admission. About the same time one of the churchwardens threw open the north door after reading a protest against the interdict of the Supreme Court and giving a warning to the Bishop. His Lordship also entered by the north door, but was met by the same churchwarden in the chancel, who read out to him the protest. The Bishop quietly replied, "I am come to discharge in this church and diocese the duties committed to me by the Queen." The registrar to the Bishop of Capetown then read the sentence of deprivation, and the Dean then solemnly pronounced the following adjuration:—"That which ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in Heaven. That stands ratified before the presence of the Almighty. Depart! Go away from this House of God!" The Bishop took no notice of this, and robed himself. After the usual service, the Bishop preached a sermon from Philip 1. 9, 10, without any unusual interruption. In the evening the cathedral remained unopened and unlighted beyond the usual time, and at length the Bishop advised the congregation to go home. It was stated that this was a purely accidental occurrence—the churchwarden whose duty it was to open and light the cathedral, having, after his dinner at the club, fallen asleep and become oblivious both of his Bishop and cathedral.

## SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR completed his second year on Tuesday.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES left Sandringham, on Monday, on a visit to the Earl of Leicester, at Holkham Hall.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA has decreed that all male children born on the day of his entering Pesth, and bearing his name, shall be exempted from military service.

THE ARCHDUCHESS MARIA-THERESA OF AUSTRIA, married last year to Duke Philip of Württemberg, has just been delivered of twins, a boy and a girl. The mother and children are doing well.

THE SULTAN has actually encouraged, if not himself ordered, a change nothing less than revolutionary in the toilets of the seraglio—the ladies of his Court are to appear in crinolines, French corsets, kid gloves, their hair reddened, and *crêpe*!

THE NEW KING AND QUEEN OF THE BELGIANS intend to reside during the greater part of the summer at the Château of Tervuren, a beautiful village about three miles from Brussels. The Château of Laeken will not, however, be wholly abandoned.

THE MARCHIONESS OF AILESBUURY is establishing a cottage hospital on the family estates in Wiltshire.

A MARRIAGE is arranged to take place between the Earl of Dunmore and Lady Julia Coke, daughter of the Earl and Countess of Leicester.

PROFESSOR SIMPSON, the eminent obstetrician of Edinburgh, has been made a Baronet.

THE COUNTESS DE GREY has resigned the post of Lady of the Bed-chamber to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, and will be succeeded by Lady Skelmersdale.

A MAGNIFICENT HUNGARIAN mantle, trimmed and lined with ermine, is being made at Pesth for the entry of the Empress of Austria into Hungary. It is to cost £400.

THE MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE AT MONTREAL has been totally destroyed by fire.

GUSTAVE DORE has undertaken to illustrate Tennyson's "Idylls of the King."

MR. DAVIDSON, MR. CRIPPS, AND MR. VERNON HARCOURT, of the Common Law Bar, have been made Queen's Counsel.

MR. J. L. CATHCART, the actor, died on the 1st inst., after a short illness, in his sixty-fifth year.

SIR JOHN HAY, who was defeated at the last election for Wakefield, has come forward, in the Conservative interest, to contest Tiverton, against the Hon. Mr. Denman, Q.C.

DR. LANKESTER, the Middlesex Coroner, speaking on infanticide recently, made the startling statement that one out of every thirty women met in the streets of London is a murderer.

MR. MALET AND MR. MORIER are to receive the companionship of the Bath as a recognition of their valuable assistance in arranging the commercial treaty with Austria.

THE POPE held a Consistory on Monday, and nominated a Patriarch, two Archbishops, and twelve Bishops. His Holiness did not deliver an allocution on the occasion.

M. BERRYER, whose seventy-seventh birthday was celebrated by his friends on Friday week, and whose health never was better, is preparing to plead before the Castres tribunal the last will of Father Lacordaire, which is disputed by the only living relation of that great orator.

THE PRINCIPAL PORTION of the frigate *Merrimac*, sunk in Hampton Roads, has been raised and taken to Portsmouth Navy Yard.

STATUES IN WHITE MARBLE of the two great tragic actresses, Mdlle. Mars and Mdlle. Rachel, both represented as seated, have been placed in the foyer of the Théâtre Français, Paris.

THE WIRE and principal materials for the new Atlantic cable are being manufactured in Birmingham. The cable will be laid down in the course of the ensuing summer.

A TENANT FARMER in Norfolk has suggested that a memorial should be presented to the Prince of Wales asking him to use his influence to obtain a lessening of the injury done by excessive game-preserving.

A BUST of the late Mr. Cobden, the gift of the Belgian Political Economy Association, is to be received by the Chamber of Commerce of Verviers on the 22nd, with all the honours of a public cremorial.

TOM SAYERS'S AFFAIRS are, it appears, to be wound up in Chancery, the 24th of February next being the day appointed for the adjudication.

THE PROJECT to construct a canal between the North Sea and the Baltic through the duchies of the Elbe has been provisionally abandoned.

A FRENCH lacemaker has propounded the question why the colours of lace should be confined to black and white. He offers Chantilly lace, of various colours, to suit all tastes and complexions.

WILLIAM WHITE, a sailor, while travelling by rail from Liverpool to Garston, jumped from the carriage window. He was afterwards found in a ditch at the foot of an embankment, very dirty, but unhurt.

MR. MASON JONES, who recently fought two losing battles in the Liberal cause at Coventry, was presented with a testimonial at that place on Tuesday. There was a densely crowded meeting in the Corn Exchange, and the proceedings were of an enthusiastic character.

NEARLY A WHOLE FLOCK OF SHEEP has been worried to death by dogs near Warwick. Thirty-nine animals were killed and ten others seriously injured.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSIONERS have expressed their readiness to make over the Bunhill-fields Cemetery to the Dissenting societies—or to trustees acting on their behalf—for the nominal sum of £10,000.

THE HAMBURG GOVERNMENT are negotiating with an English company for a seven-league cable, to be laid down between London and Cuxhaven, via Heligoland. The most important preliminaries have been adjusted.

EIGHT HUNDRED AND EIGHTY BASKETS OF OYSTERS, filling seventeen vans, sent to Paris by the Western Railway for the fêtes of the New Year, remained unsold at the end of last week, owing to the unwillingness of retailers to pay the wholesale dealers' prices.

NO ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE LORD WODEHOUSE was, it seems, made. No shot was fired at the train, the engine drawing which came in contact with a telegraph-post. That was all.

MR. BLACK has taken on lease for ten years a fine estate in Caroline county, Virginia, and intends to return to Scotland and bring over a colony of emigrants, including the sons of large farmers, who will have something wherewith to purchase and improve.

THE PROPRIETORS of the *Times*, after reviewing their balance-sheet, have presented to each of the members of their permanent staff, in all departments of the office, a sum equivalent to a fortnight's salary, in order that they may participate in the large profits of the past year.AS THE STEAM-SHIP *LLAMA* was proceeding from Greenock to Belfast during a gale, some herrings broke adrift from the paddle-box, and were scattered on the deck; whereupon a Highlander, in his dismay, exclaimed, "Ah, boys, it's all up wi' us now; the very herrin' are seeking shelter on deck!"

THE DEATH OF THE EARL OF LIMERICK is announced, which was caused by a sudden attack of bronchitis. His Lordship, who was the second Earl, was the second son of Henry Hastings, Lord Glentworth, eldest son of the first Earl. He was born at Limerick in 1812, and succeeded his grandfather in 1844.

TWO SCHOOLBOYS recently quarrelled at their academy near Darmstadt, and resolved to settle the matter according to the code of honour; but as they could only get hold of one pistol, they actually drew lots. Luckily, though touched by the ball, the one who stood first was but slightly injured. These lads' ages are respectively eleven and thirteen.

A GOVERNMENT shorthand writer will proceed forthwith to Jamaica for the purpose of taking notes of the evidence given before the Royal Commission, and transmitting a manuscript copy of his notes to Government by every successive mail, in order to cause as little delay as possible in laying the whole mass of evidence before Parliament as soon as the inquiry has terminated.

A RECENT APPLICATION for an increase of wages from the miners in the employ of Earl Granville was brought before the quarterly meeting of the North Staffordshire Coal and Ironmasters' Association, at Stoke-on-Trent, on Monday, when it was decided, on account of the improved state of the coal market, to advance the wages of colliers and ironstone miners throughout the district from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 9d. a day.

THE CEREMONY of blessing the hat and sword which the Pope is accustomed to send each year to some Prince, defender of the Church, has taken place according to the prescribed forms; but, as has occurred during the last few years, there being no Sovereign who possesses the necessary qualification, the hat and sword have been both sent back to the Papal depository.

THE GREAT FIRE IN THE ST. KATHERINE DOCKS WAREHOUSES is not yet wholly extinguished. Workmen are employed in the removal of vast quantities of damaged property, and powerful fire-engines are throwing water on the places where the fire is still burning.

EARL DUDLEY has given £5000 towards the purchase of the Arboretum pleasure-grounds, Worcester, in order that they may become the property of the city.

THE POLICE SEIZED IN DUBLIN, on Wednesday, nearly 500 pikes, eighty of them mounted on polished handles 9 ft. long. They were seized in a butcher's stall in Blackhall-row, which had been secretly fitted up as a workshop. A patent machine for making percussion-caps was also discovered. Several more of the Fenian prisoners, including Kickham, have been found guilty and sentenced to various periods of penal servitude.

A HEAVY FALL OF SNOW took place in London on Thursday morning. The telegraph wires were destroyed in different parts of the city.



### THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

THE re-election of Mr. Denison as Speaker of the House of Commons will be moved, on the assembling of Parliament, by the Right Hon. W. Monsell, M.P. for the county of Limerick, and seconded by Earl Grosvenor, M.P. for Chester. The Address in answer to the Speech from the Throne will be moved in the House of Commons by Lord Frederick Cavendish, M.P. for the West Riding of York, and seconded by Mr. William Graham, M.P. for the city of Glasgow. Mr. Disraeli has summoned his supporters to be in attendance on Feb. 6, by which time, it is expected, the House will be constituted, "as business of great importance may be under consideration."

The arrangement that her Majesty is to open Parliament in person still holds, notwithstanding the death of the King of the Belgians. But she will not walk in her Royal robe, nor read the Speech. There has been a good deal of grumbling in private talk about this arrangement; but there is no reason for being dissatisfied with it, when we come to look at it. The Royal robe is a cumbersome garment. It is so long that it needs at least two train-bearers to keep it off the ground; and I do not wonder that her Majesty wishes to get rid of this unnecessary weight upon her shoulders. It is, though, to be placed on the seat of the throne; and I suspect that, when her Majesty takes her seat, it will be drawn over her shoulders. As to her Majesty reading the Speech, it is surprising that Queen Victoria should shrink from this ordeal, when we recollect who filled the chair on the left hand of the throne when last she opened Parliament? Her Majesty is but human, dear reader, like you; and if you have passed the meridian of life, and have no memorial of bereavement in your house which brings tears in your eyes when you look at it, Providence has been very clement with you. Nor is it generous, nor even just, to say, as a certain writer in a daily paper said, that if her Majesty had not wanted a dowry for her daughter she would not have consented to open Parliament. Neither is it true. At all events, it was generally understood about the Court more than a year ago that her Majesty would open the new Parliament in person. The writers for the public journals boast that they are gentlemen; but to sneer at the grief of a woman, albeit she is a Queen, is surely not very gentlemanly. Prince Albert died in December, 1861—four years ago; and it does not seem to me that four years is an extravagantly long time for her Majesty to mourn in secret over the loss of such a husband. I have known strong men utterly wrecked by bereavements not more appalling than this. Indeed, one cannot imagine a greater affliction than that which her Majesty was called upon suddenly to bear.

Both at the War Office and at the Admiralty the authorities are busy at cutting down the Estimates. It is said that more than a million will be saved in each of these departments; and, if this should prove to be true, what a magnificent surplus Gladstone will have! Something like four millions at least, I calculate. What will be done with the fortifications at Spithead and Portsmouth Hill, and the harbour works at Alderney, now their chief defender, Lord Palmerston, is gone? I should not be surprised to hear that they are to be stopped. And, now that the American war is over, shall we carry out the project of defending the Canadian frontier by a line of forts? Questionable, I think.

Last week there was a rumour at the clubs that Lord Clarence Paget had really resigned, and that Mr. Stansfeld was to have his place, and this news apparently came from people in such a position that at first I was disposed to receive it as authentic. But, on inquiry, I found that Mr. Stansfeld had certainly not been appointed, and so in writing to you I did not notice this part of the rumour at all, and expressed a doubt whether Lord Clarence had resigned; and now it is understood that his Lordship still holds on to his place; and, as to the honourable member for Halifax, I more than suspect that he has received no official communication upon the subject at present. Still, let us hope, and I think we may hope, that the services of this gentleman may yet be secured for the country. The present season is fruitful in rumours of all sorts. Last week it was said that Sir John Gray was to be the Irish Lord of the Treasury, *vice* Colonel White. That was not true. And this week we have had another report—namely, that Mr. Goschen has been given a seat in the Cabinet, with the office of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster—which is at least premature. The hon. gentleman may enter the Cabinet ere long, but he has not done so up to the time at which I write.

But what of the Emperor of the French—or rather of Lord Clarendon's opinion that the appointment of Mr. Stansfeld to an office in the State would complicate our relations with the Emperor? Well, I suppose as the rumour that Lord Clarendon has expressed an opinion to this effect has not been contradicted, we must believe it, however extraordinary and distasteful, I might almost say disgusting, it may be. But I say now, as I said at first, that I do not believe for a moment that the French Emperor ever gave Lord Clarendon the slightest intimation which could justify this opinion. If he entertains such a notion, I still hold that it is a mere phantasm of his mind; albeit by so deciding I lay down a proposition from which necessarily results this corollary—that Lord Clarendon's mind, though active, is not strong. However, we shall, I think, know more of this matter when Parliament meets; for it cannot be that the House of Commons, which was so jealous of a foreign Potentate interfering with our legislation that it dismissed the Government which sanctioned the interference, can allow the influence of a foreign Potentate to interfere with the prerogatives of our own Sovereign.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* of Monday has a sneering article on the elevation of Sir John Romilly, the Master of the Rolls, to the Peerage, reminding us that his brother, Sir Charles Romilly, married a half-sister of Earl Russell. It might also have told us that a sister of Sir John or Lord Romilly, as he now is, married a son of Earl Minto, brother of Earl Russell's first wife. The *Pall Mall* points to his family connection with Earl Russell as the reason why Sir John has got a peerage; but if this is all that can be said against the elevation of Sir John it is not much. Making Sir John a Peer costs the country nothing, whilst, as the *Daily News* shows, it will give the Government increased strength in the House of Lords to carry the law reforms which, no doubt, they contemplate; for, though Lord Romilly is not one of our greatest Judges, he is, and always has been, like his father, an earnest law reformer. Whilst family connection is not a sufficient reason for elevating a man to the Peerage, on the other hand it is surely not a sufficient reason why he should not be sent to the Upper House if his services there can be useful to the Government.

We are likely to have ample intelligence from Jamaica, both of the proceedings of the commission and of the state of the island generally, for I hear that, in addition to the representatives of the London daily papers, Messrs. Lee and Nightingale, newsgatherers, Liverpool, have sent out one of the best members of their staff, Mr. Dunning, to supply reports from the colony. Mr. Dunning left England in November last, and some letters from him have already been published, which indicate that he is determined to execute thoroughly the task which has been committed to him. In one of his letters he shows, from facts and figures derived from official documents and careful personal inquiries, that great misconception has hitherto existed in England as to the relative political position of the white and black population of the island. The old slaveholding class are shown to be almost extinct, and to possess but little political influence; while the brown and black population enjoy political privileges unequalled for liberality by those of any other people either in Europe, America, or Australia. He also points out—contrary to received opinions—that the absentee planters are comparatively few; that almost all the planters who still cultivate estates reside permanently on them; and that but few are descendants of the old slaveholders.

On Wednesday, the 3rd inst., the new and spacious class-rooms of the Female School of Art, 43, Queen-square, Bloomsbury, were opened formally by a meeting under the presidency of Professor Westmacott, R.A. Mr. Torrens, M.P., and many other persons of note, were present to hear the address delivered by Professor Donaldson. This excellent school is under the superintendence of Miss Gann, and is the only one devoted exclusively to female

education in art. The lofty sculpture-gallery, first opened, is 47 ft. long, and is supplied with good models. Her Majesty, who is patroness of the school, presents an annual "Queen's medal," with £10 yearly towards the foundation of a Queen's scholarship; and the students have also opportunities of competing for the national awards of medals given by the Art and Science Department at South Kensington. An exhibition of students' drawings took place on the three days succeeding the opening of the new rooms, and was well attended.

On Saturday last the Langham Society gave the first of its series of conversaciones, at which were exhibited many of the pictures destined for the British Institution and the Dudley Gallery, and the show promised well for both these exhibitions. I noticed some capital water colours by Pinwell, whose work on the wood is well known; and there was a fine seascape—a life-boat putting out—by Hoyes, and two pleasing and imaginative pictures by Fitzgerald. Rossiter, C. Cattermole, Morten, and others, whom one is always delighted to meet on canvas or card as well as in person at these very pleasant gatherings, were also exhibitors. Altogether, although the British Institution conversazione is of course not up to that which precedes the opening of the Royal Academy as a rule, the show of pictures on Saturday was most interesting, and I am only sorry time and space will not let me go into the subject more at length.

The other day, whilst I was quietly eating my steak, hot from the silver grid at Spiers and Pond's new restaurant at the Ludgate station, a gentleman entered who at once attracted my attention. He was dressed in a suit of black, capped by a tall white neckcloth, and walked about, with double eyeglass on his nose, with all the quiet ease of a high-born gentleman, or, say, of a wealthy merchant in the City. "Certainly," a stranger to him would have said, "there must be the consciousness of rank or wealth behind that easy, cool, and quiet manner." He had not come to dine, "No, he was," he said to the waiter, as I afterwards learned, "a director of the South-Eastern Railway, and, having heard of the fame of this new restaurant, had come to see it." And now, reader, who do you imagine this gentleman was? Well, it was Mr. Samuel Tillet, the irrepressible man who, having passed several years in gaol for his misdeeds at Colchester, appeared at Court, introduced there by the Duke of Wellington. What an irrepressible fellow it is! But has he really got on to the direction of the South-Eastern?

Do you remember a certain Stephen J. Meany who, in 1862, figured before the public of London in connection with certain questionable doings at the International Exhibition, such as dining at the refreshment-rooms nearly every day, and occasionally taking a friend, on the strength of "belonging to the press"? There was also a talk of the same gentleman obtaining goods from exhibitors on pretence of giving them "favourable notice" in the public journals. Well, Mr. Meany had to leave England in consequence, as is believed, of that exposure, and now crops up as an editor and full-blown Fenian senator in America. Unfortunately, he has not escaped calumny, even in the *par excellence* "land of the free," for he has been compelled to vindicate himself from the charge of pocketing 1400 dollars a year as salary for services rendered to Fenianism. Mr. Meany, of course, denies the charge. He has, he says, never received a farthing of the subscriptions. "I have not been, am not, and never mean to be a salaried official of the organisation . . . and I stand to-day with the proud consciousness that I have given months of valuable time and . . . am several hundred dollars out of pocket as a result of my congressional and senatorial services." I give the gist of Mr. Meany's vindication; but, after the 1862 Exhibition affair, the less he bounces about being a "newspaper man" and his "reputation" the better. "Be these your gods?" O Fenians! Woe for the "Irish Republic" when its leaders are men of the S. J. Meany stamp.

The *John Bull* of last week committed the double error of asserting that the *Pall Mall Gazette* started as a Conservative paper, and that Mr. James Hannay was then and is now the editor of that journal. The fact is, that the *Pall Mall Gazette* was always a paper of Liberal views, and that Mr. Hannay has never had anything to do with its editorship in any way.

### THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

I have before me, Mr. Editor, some quarterlies and monthly magazines, and, among them, a new one, the *Contemporary Review*, upon all which a careful word or two remains to be said when they have been well looked at. But I may clear my desk a bit by disposing of one—viz.:—*"The Masonic Press; a Monthly Journal, Review, and Chronicle of Freemasonry and its Kindred Subjects, &c., as well as General Literature, the Drama, and Fine Arts, issued under the Sanction of the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, and the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master of Masonic Knights Templar of England and Wales, &c. Edited by + Bro. Matthew Cooke, P.M., 30°, &c."* This is an overwhelming title, and from the contents I gather that there is a split of some kind in the Masonic body; or, not to commit myself, that there is, at least, some attempt to get up a split (what an image! "get up a split"—nearly equal to Castlereagh's best, I think!) on the part of some people, somewhere, who are offended with some "pampered menial."—"In England," says this magazine, "at last, the dry bones of Freemasonry are shaking together with no uncertain sound. Masonic discontent is rife, and it is no uncommon occurrence to hear strong denunciations of the policy pursued. It is but recently that a formidable secession was openly mooted, brought about by the vain threat of expelling some members of the order who had dared to act for themselves, after suffering every indignity and rudeness a pampered menial could heap upon them." Well, for my part, I don't know anything about these matters. How can "Bro. Cooke" be "P.M. 30°"? That means post meridian thirty degrees, does it not?

But let not Freemasonry make too sure of its secrets! with this magazine is sent round a slip printed in cryptography, which, I suppose, is the esoteric character of the Brotherhood. But I am a little curious about it, because the cryptograph can be read at one glance by anyone who is accustomed to such matters. I beg + Bro. Matthew Cooke, P.M., 30°, &c. to take notice that his printer has made a mistake in line 6 of the cryptogram (counting the word "Brother!" as a line)—unless, indeed, Freemasons spell the plural of "Shilling" with an R instead of S. As the cryptogram contains nothing of the smallest importance, it doesn't matter; but if this is the secret writing of the Brotherhood, all I can say is that it is as easy to read as any of the specimens that once used to turn up in the *Times*—and I made out every one of those that I saw, except the renowned SLMPI.

### THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

There is scarcely a metropolitan theatre of importance which has not identified itself more or less completely with some special form of theatrical entertainment, and it is remarkable that it rarely happens that any two "West-End" theatres bear any resemblance to each other in the nature of the pieces they produce. Drury Lane, the Haymarket, Adelphi, St. James's, Princess's, and Strand have each a distinctive identity of their own, and what is still more singular, an audience exclusively their own. I don't mean to say that the people who go to the Haymarket never visit the Adelphi, or that the habitués of the Princess's are unknown at the Strand. Such an assertion would be as absurd as to say that men who consult a physician never consult an attorney; but playgoers enter a theatre with their minds prepared for a special form of entertainment, and if, by any chance, they don't get that special form of entertainment, they are more or less disappointed. A joke that will set the Haymarket in a roar, would fall absolutely flat at the Princess's; and a piece of realism which will bring the house down at the Princess's, would be hissed off the stage at any other West-End theatre. It was, therefore, a daring thing in the Strand management to produce at a theatre which has hitherto been celebrated for clever, bustling two-act dramas, sparkling burlesques, and impossible farces, such a thoroughly conventional three-act melodrama as "Nellie's Trials." It is a melodrama of the old school, full of midnight treacheries, sealed packets, plots, counterplots, poisonings, blood and thunder, and is

the work of Mr. John Brougham, who, a year or two ago, produced a piece called "The Right of Might," at Astley's, on the same subject. The plot turns on the honourable love of Ralph Warrington (Mr. Belford) for Nellie Meredith (Miss Ada Swanborough), the dishonourable love of Sir Marmaduke Wylie (Mr. Parselle) for women in general and for Nellie Meredith and Alice Blunt (Miss Kate Rance), the daughter of one Farmer Blunt, in particular; and the devotion of Paul Warrington (Mr. Edward Price) to his brother Ralph. Paul has been induced by Sir Marmaduke to believe that he has formed an intrigue with Nellie, Ralph's fiancée; and a duel ensues, in which Paul is, to all appearance, mortally wounded. However, he eventually recovers; and, in the disguise of an old gipsy, contrives to get himself employed by Sir Marmaduke as his agent in carrying off the two ladies, in burning the manor house in which Alice Blunt resides, and in murdering Nellie—who refuses to listen to the Baronet's overtures, notwithstanding that the discovery of her supposed intrigue has estranged her lover Ralph and all her friends. The fictitious gipsy contrives to get from Sir Marmaduke an acknowledgment of his guilt, which is eventually brought against the Baronet with ruinous effect. On the discovery of Sir Marmaduke's villainy, Ralph is reconciled to Nellie, and Paul pairs off with Alice Blunt, whom he recognises as a young lady he once saved from drowning. The piece is written in the exploded style familiar to playgoers of fifty years ago, and is crammed with impossible villainies. Mr. Belford, Mr. Parselle, and Mr. Price were sadly hampered with parts entirely out of their respective lines; Miss Swanborough played the persecuted Nellie with graphic power, and Miss Kate Rance satisfactorily filled the part of Alice Blunt. A word of commendation is due to Mr. Thorne for his ingenuity in contriving to extract a little fun from a part with one joke—the joke consisting in the everlasting reiteration of the exclamation, "Oh, my delicate sensibilities!" The scenery, from the pencil of Mr. Charles Fenton, is excellent.

### IRELAND.

WILLIAM CARLETON.—This great Irish writer is suffering under severe physical infirmity which totally precludes the further exercise of his literary powers. In his seventy-first year the author of the "Traits and Stories of the Irish Peasantry," his faculties obscured and his sight all but lost, is struggling to maintain himself and a large family on £150 a year, the residuum of his pension of £200 a year, after paying the premium on the policy of insurance effected for the benefit of his survivors. Feeling that his time will be but short, and wishing to give him a short respite from pressing care before he passes away, some of his friends in Dublin have commenced a movement for having an increase of a third made to his pension during the brief balance of his life, and it is hoped that those in Ireland and elsewhere who are influential will not be slow to use their influence on behalf of William Carleton.

A TRIAL FOR LOVERS.—The following story is told by an Irish newspaper:—"A certain young lady, possessing more than ordinary accomplishments for her class of life, being the daughter of poor but respectable parents, on the death of a wealthy relative recently became entitled to £8000. When the glad tidings reached the ears of her neighbours many warm admirers flocked around the hitherto neglected beauty, and there was no end to the overtures of love. Previous to the turn of fortune's wheel a young man of humble pretensions had been the young lady's only suitor, but the knowledge of her wealth at once placed a formidable barrier in his way, and he contented himself with being a silent worshiper at a distance. Matters ultimately came to a crisis, and in order to test the affection of her devotees the young lady caused a report to be circulated that the supposed fortune was in reality only a sham, the mistake having occurred through a similarity of name. This intelligence had the effect of causing the visits of the lovers to become less frequent, and finally cease altogether. The humble youth rejoiced at the change, and at once took an opportunity to console the mistress of his heart, who, to the surprise of all, rewarded his sincerity with her hand and made him sole master of £8000."

A VERY IRISH AFFAIR.—A lady and gentleman residing in the vicinity of Cork, Ireland, were married in the early part of last year, but for some months past have not lived together—the lady residing with her father, and the gentleman occupying a house of his own. A suit for divorce, instituted by the lady, is pending, and on Friday week the husband adopted a singular method of defeating it. For a couple of days before he had a carriage and pair in readiness at a livery-stable, and on the day in question the carriage, with the husband in it, and several men in a car behind, started from Cork, and, shortly after getting into the Blackrock-road, a carriage was seen in advance. In this, as it afterwards turned out, were the gentleman's wife and a female friend, out for a drive. They were overtaken, their carriage stopped, the doors opened, and the lady sought to be taken out by her husband. Her friend, soon after the carriage was stopped, got out; but she herself defied all efforts to remove her. While the struggle continued the men that had come in the car after the gentleman held the lady's coachman and the horse; but finding, after over half an hour had elapsed, that it was useless to continue trying to get the lady out, the gentleman retired, and his wife was allowed to return to her father's house.

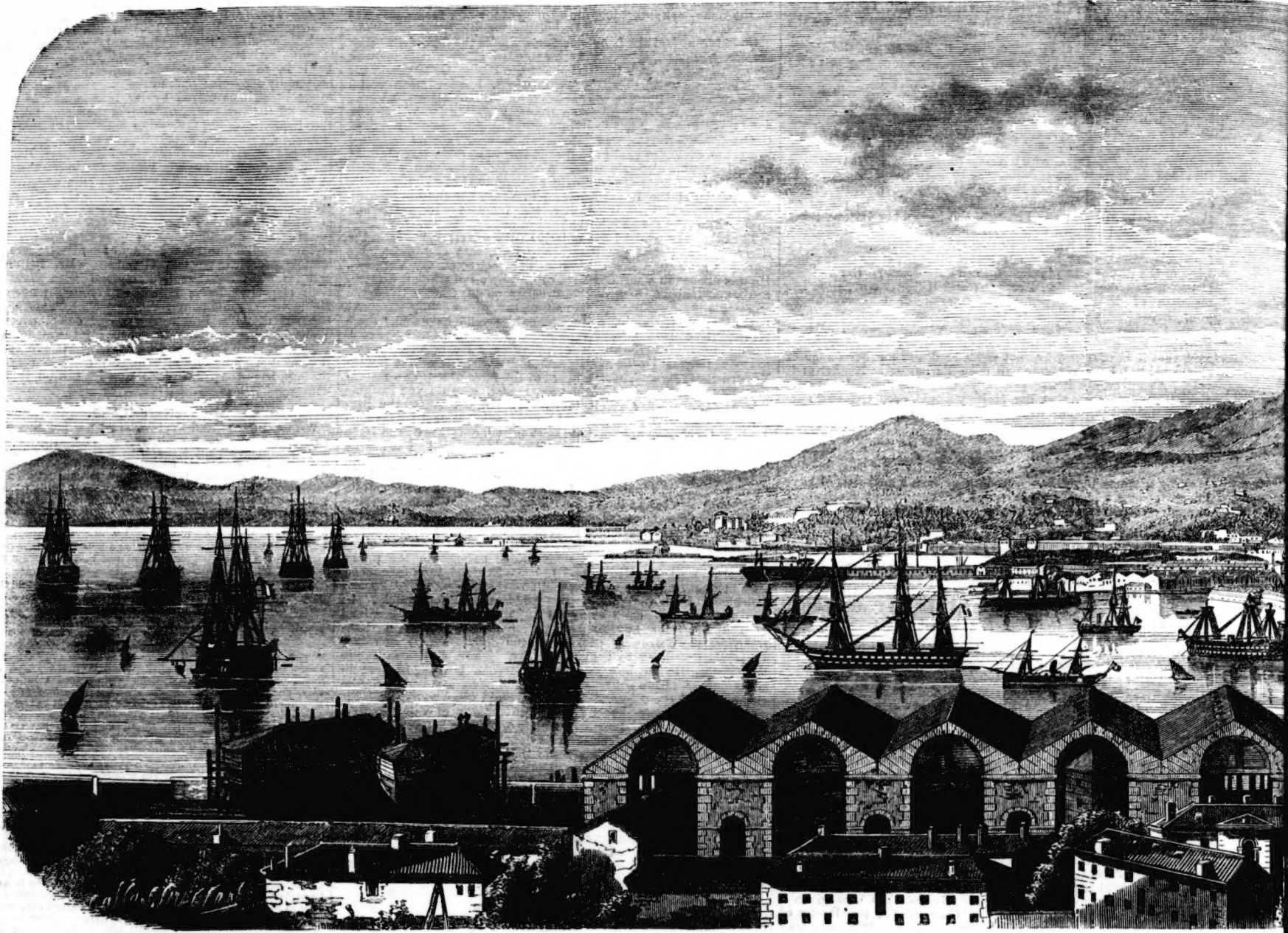
### THE PROVINCES.

THE RINDERPEST AND THE SMALLPOX.—The High Sheriff for Cheshire writes to the *Times*:—"I had a herd of sixteen cows, ten of which were vaccinated and six not. The vaccinated cows are all, up to this time, healthy and well, the unvaccinated are all dead. The vaccinated and unvaccinated were kept in separate shippens, but the shippens were within 20 yards of each other, and in the same yard. The six unvaccinated cows were separated as soon as they showed the slightest symptoms of uneasiness, and placed in a kind of hospital, and treated variously, according to the directions of several eminent authorities, whose directions were scrupulously carried out. They all died, notwithstanding. The healthy cows were all vaccinated from matter procured from the Vaccine Hospital (not inoculated from the pus of the disease), and vaccinated on the upper part of the tail."

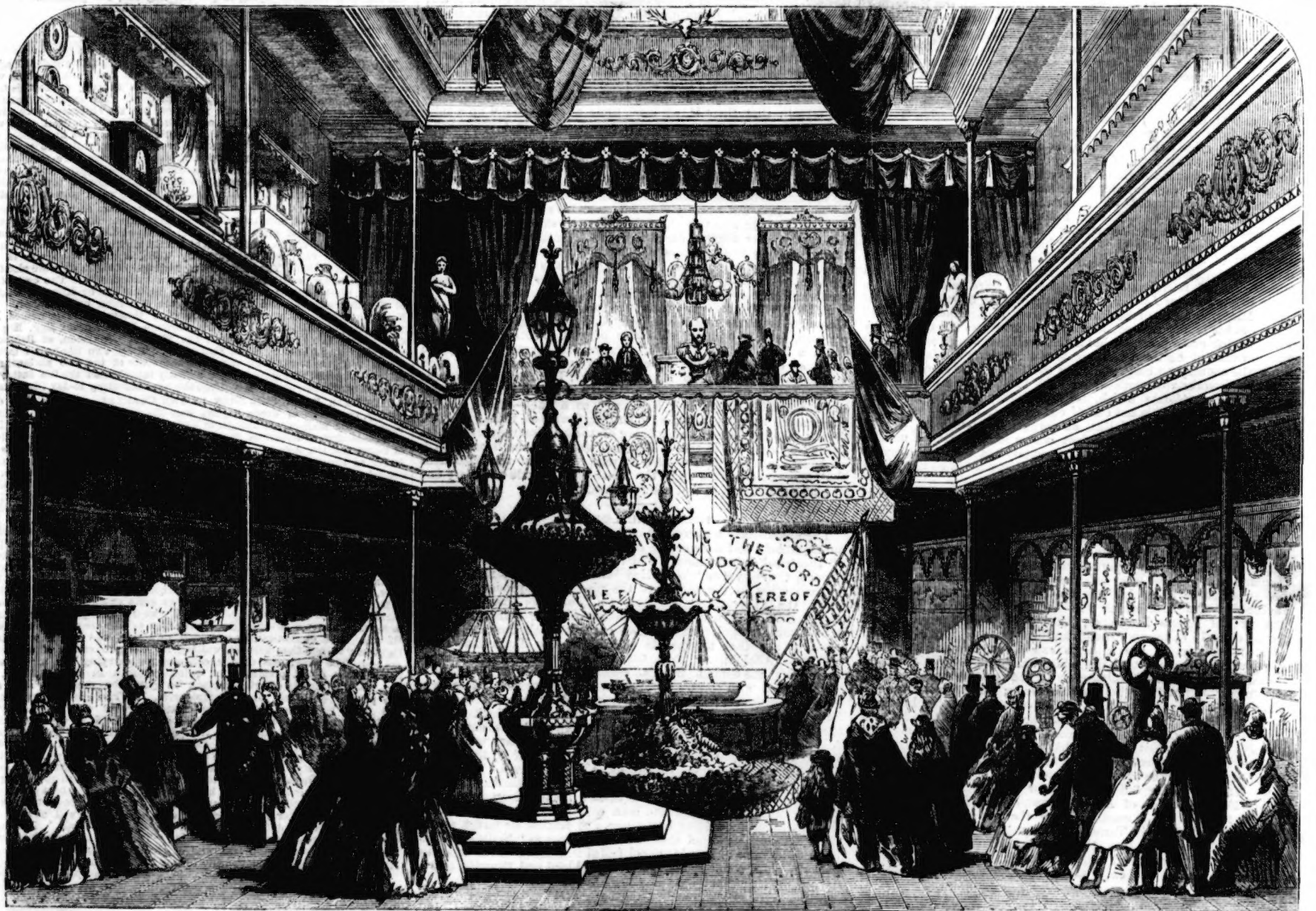
NEW LIFE-BOATS FOR NORTHUMBERLAND.—Two fine new life-boats, each 34 ft. long, and built of solid mahogany, accompanied by transporting-carriages, have just been sent by the National Life-boat Institution to Hauxley and Newbiggin, on the coast of Northumberland. Their self-righting qualities were fully and satisfactorily tested a few days since in the Regent's Canal Dock. The transporting carriages of the boats were also tried on the occasion, and were found to answer admirably. The cost of the Hauxley life-boat was presented to the institution by Eleanor, Duchess of Northumberland, and it is called the Algonern and Eleanor. The Newbiggin lifeboat is also the gift of a benevolent lady named Miss Hopkinson, of Brighouse, Yorkshire, through W. Anderson Esq., Esq., of Chesapeake. The life-boat is named the William Hopkinson, of Brighouse, after the donor's late brother of that name. These two life-boat establishments will, we trust, long remain monuments of the two philanthropic ladies. The Hauxley life-boat was publicly launched on the 9th inst.; and the Newbiggin life-boat is to undergo the same ceremony to-day (Saturday).

THE LATE FATAL COLLISION IN THE CHANNEL.—After eleven days' sitting, the Board of Trade inquiry into the circumstances of the collision between the mail-packet *Samphire* and the American barque *Fanny Buck* was concluded, at Dover, on Saturday last. During the inquiry the Mayor of Dover and Dr. Astley have sat as magistrates, and Captains Harris and Baker as nautical assessors. After the taking of evidence had been concluded a statement was read from the commander of the *Samphire*, and counsel for the several parties concerned addressed the Bench. The Court then remained an hour in consultation, when they returned into court, and the Mayor said:—"After a most careful and anxious consideration of the voluminous and contradictory evidence taken on this inquiry, we have come to the conclusion that the captain of the *Samphire*, who is wholly responsible for the conduct and management of his vessel, is culpable for having driven his vessel at so great a speed across one of the most frequented and narrow seas in the world on so dark and hazy a night as that of the 13th of December. The attendant circumstances, however, are such, and the default of the barque in not properly exhibiting a sufficient light from the lamps having to some extent contributed to the damage and loss of life, that we do not think we should be justified in awarding so severe a sentence as either the deprivation or the suspension of his certificate. The circumstances to which we allude, and which we think it right now to mention, without waiting for the publication of our report, are:—1. The provisions of the contract for carrying the mails, which holds out a direct premium for quick passages in all weathers, and the natural desire of the captain to gain the premium and avoid the penalty on behalf of his employers. 2. The great moral pressure put upon both the owners and commanders of the vessels by the public, who require the utmost despatch to be used in the transmission of these mails, and the desire of the passengers frequenting the route for quick passages—a desire which can only be gratified, in cases like the present, by the neglect of some of those precautions which we think indispensable for safety. The great interest evinced by the public in these proceedings has induced us in thus announcing our decision to go further into detail than we should otherwise have considered it incumbent on us. The various other questions arising on this inquiry as to the conduct of the crew of the *Samphire* after the collision, and other matters, will be more fully entered into in our detailed report to the Board of Trade." The Mayor (addressing Captain Bennett) then said:—"The Court has great pleasure in handing back your certificate, and at the same time testifying to your laudable exertions in endeavouring to save life after the collision."



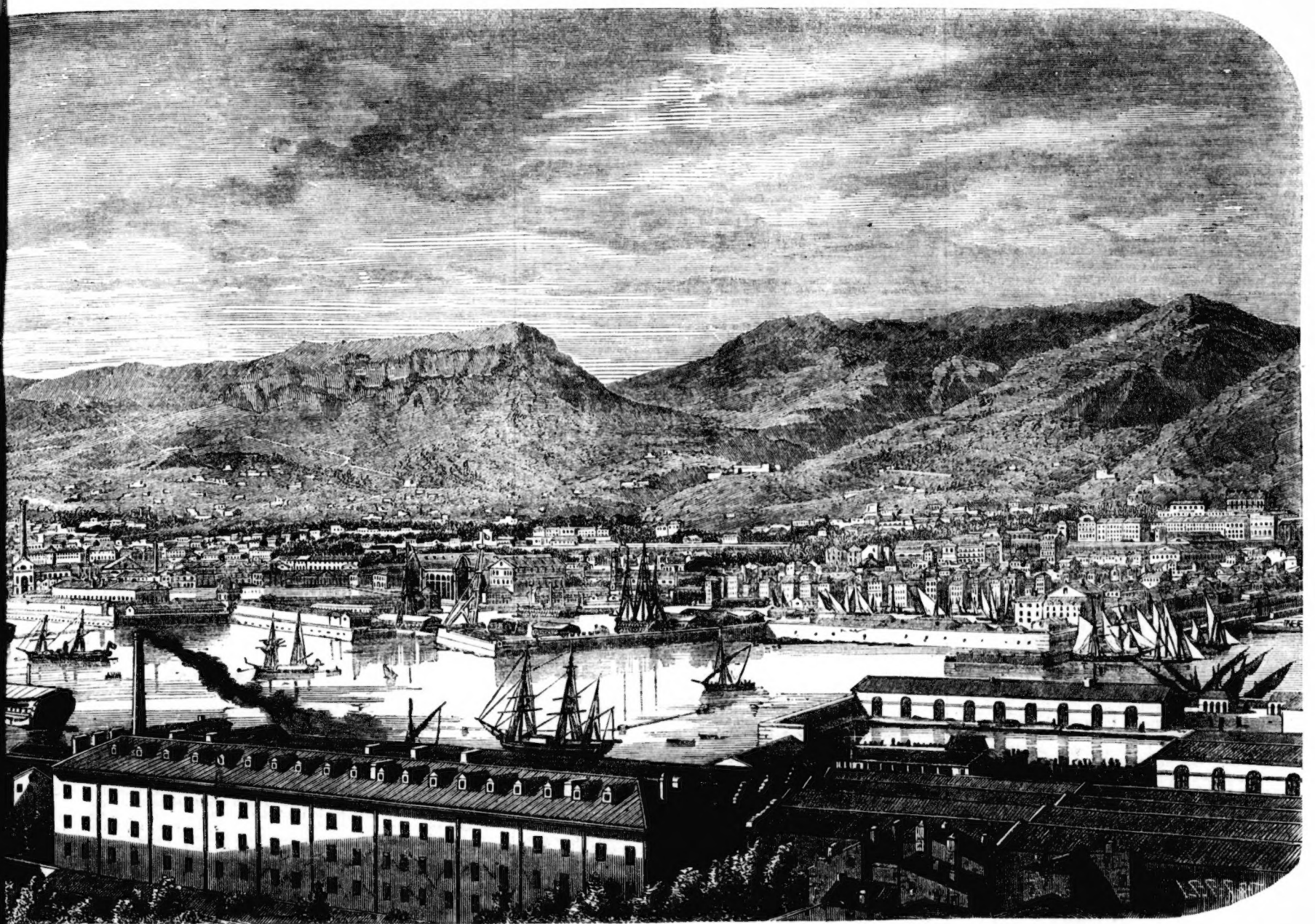


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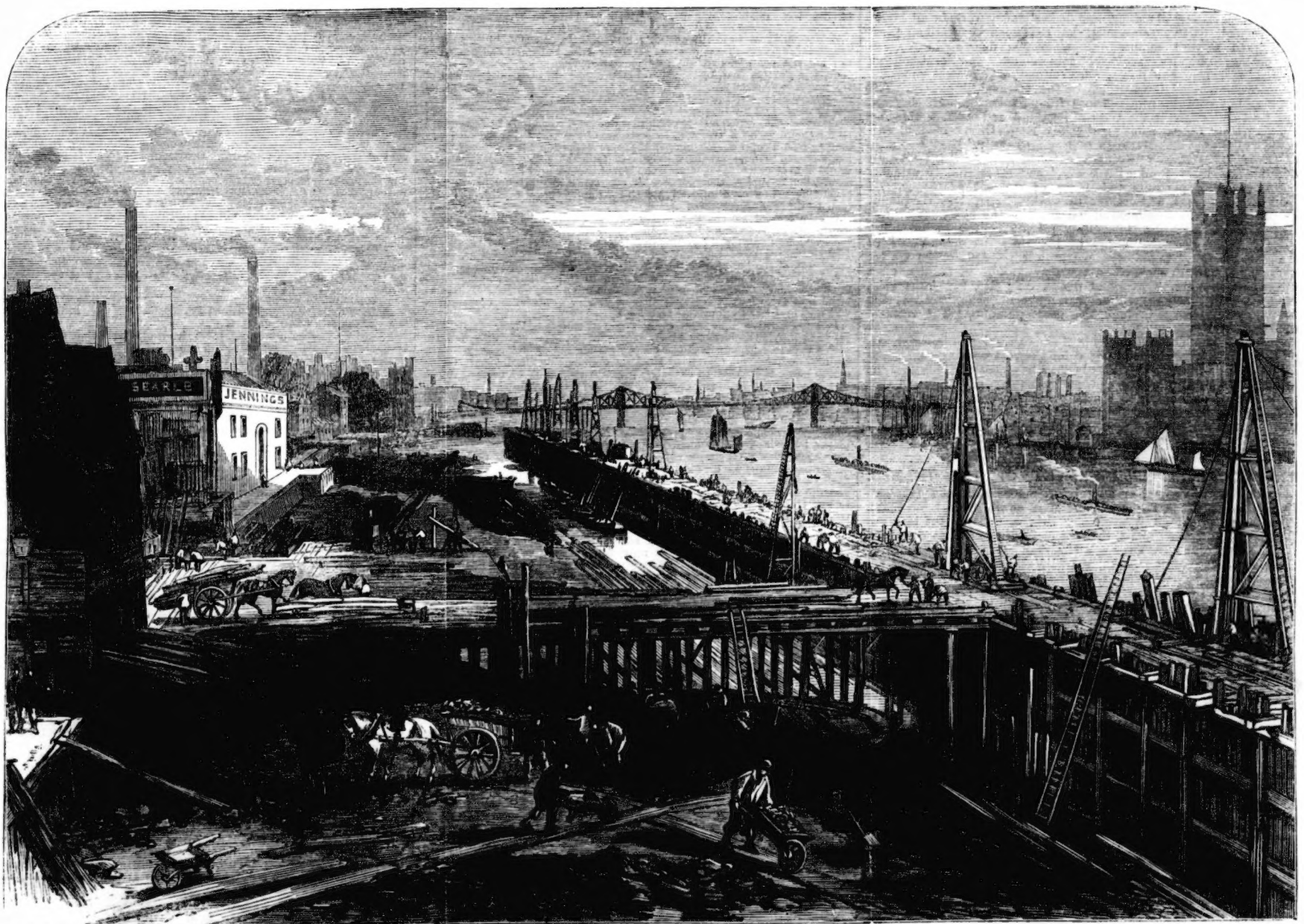


INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION AT GLA-GOW.





HEAD, TOULON.



THE SOUTHERN EMBANKMENT OF THE THAMES: SITE FOR ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.



### THE ROADSTEAD OF TOULON.

WE have already published several engravings of the docks and other great naval works at Toulon, that great French dépôt, which has occupied so many years in construction, and the completion of which has lately been pushed so rapidly forward that it may be said to have increased in importance almost daily. Our illustration this week represents a general view of the roadstead itself.

The town is open on the south side to the harbours and road, but is sheltered on the north by the lofty Mount Pharon, and on the east and west by hills of less elevation, so that, from its very position, the heat in summer is almost intolerable. The road is an inlet of the Mediterranean, having its opening towards the east, and is divided into two parts, the inner and the outer road, by the headlands, which extend into the road on each side so as to form a narrow strait, the old and new forts occupying respectively the east and the west. These two inner harbours are separated from the inner road and from each other by moles or piers: they have each a narrow entrance for one vessel at a time; and a passage communicates between the two by a swing bridge. The old harbour is surrounded by a large quay, along which are a good number of houses, and the new harbour stands amidst the various buildings connected with it as a naval port. On the north side are the dockyard, the building-sheds, the workshops, the armouries, and the schools. On the east side of the naval fort and at the eastern extremity of the south side, are the convict establishment and the convict hospital, built on the moles which inclose the harbour; and in the same quarter are basins for the repair or construction of vessels.

Both town and harbour are surrounded, except towards the road, by a wall strengthened by bastions. The town is entered by two gates—the gate of France, on the north-west, through which the road from Paris, Aix, and Marseilles passes; and the gate of Italy, on the north-east, through which the road from Genoa, Nice, and Frejus enters.

### GLASGOW INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

SINCE 1851 we have become familiar with exhibitions, and the familiarity has probably done something to take off the edge of novelty; but there is a peculiarity about the Exhibition opened in Glasgow on the 12th ult. rendering it worthy of special attention—it is mainly the creation of working men. A number of the more opulent citizens have, indeed, contributed of their "art-treasures" to its adornment, but the mass of the contributions are either those of artisans or amateurs. The preponderance of models of the locomotive and steam engine reminds us that Glasgow is the city of Watt, and that the determination he gave the mechanical arts has left an abiding impress upon its genius. Who first originated the idea of "exhibitions" it might, perhaps, be hazardous to say. But there can be no hazard in asserting that to the sagacity and the labours of the Good Albert was Britain indebted for the splendid success of the Exhibition of 1851. The late Prince Consort comprehended more profoundly than most men of his time how, despite the "confused noise of the warrior" ever and anon breaking on the ear of Europe, the age is, after all, essentially an industrial age. The Great Exhibition, over which he presided with such remarkable ability and unwearied perseverance, was the realisation of that fact. Glasgow, populous as it is, could not expect, in a purely local enterprise, to cope with an enterprise to which the industry of the world sent its wealth. In the London Exhibition there were gathered, as into a net, the riches of nations; while Glasgow working men have only the spoils of a single city to select from. But, even in the more modest dimensions assumed by the exhibition now open in the capital of the west of Scotland, the great lesson of industrial exhibitions is taught with a vividness and force that at once arrest the most listless visitor.

The large building in which the exhibition is held at 99, Argyle-street, contains four large flats, with ante-rooms. The ground floor of the exhibition contains upwards of one hundred models of stationary and locomotive engines of varied and novel construction, ingenious mechanical apparatus, extensive collection of coloured and photographic mechanical illustrations, specimens of artistic relief, works in malleable iron, &c. Then in the first gallery, in addition to the bust of the Prince Consort and Messrs. Wylie and Lochhead's drawing-room, there are groups of statuary, richly-inlaid cabinet and glass work, collections of Chinese and other foreign ornaments and curiosities, valuable contributions of articles of virtu in gold, silver, enamel, and alabaster, and ladies' fancy work of all kinds. The second gallery embraces an extensive collection, illustrating to a very minute and admirable degree the sciences of geology, botany, zoology, mineralogy, and ornithology; also microscopes, aquariums, illustrations of chemical products, electric clocks, and illustrations of the mechanical powers. The third gallery contains contributions from gentlemen possessing the finest art-collections in the West of Scotland, and others, embracing Holman Hunt's great painting of "The Scape Goat," Macculloch's "View of the Clyde," Macleise's "Sleeping Beauty," Knell's "Battle of Trafalgar," Macleise's "Scene from 'Othello,'" Ansdell's "Return of Montrose from Raid with Booty," and other equally valuable paintings; also, portraits and busts of eminent gentlemen, and paintings, drawings, and designs by working men. In the photographic gallery are specimens of the art from the best-known firms in the profession; also, interesting private collections, including "Scenes from Faust," "Views of the Holy Land," "Views of Scottish Scenery," miniatures, portraits, &c. Ante-rooms are set apart for operatives engaged in the manufacture of needles, glass ornaments, brushes, weaving of plaids, &c.; also, two large glass engines are in constant motion. Arrangements have also been made for exhibiting George Cruikshank's great painting, "The Worship of Bacchus."

Such is a sketch of the contents of the exhibition of industry, art, and skill which has been provided for the vast working-class population of the west of Scotland. It may be stated generally that the articles exhibited by working people number nearly 1400, and that the exhibitors belonging to the industrial classes are upwards of 500, showing how general the response has been to the desire of the promoters to make this a most successful, because interesting and instructive, exhibition.

### THE SOUTHERN EMBANKMENT OF THE THAMES.

A COMMENCEMENT has now been made with the Southern Embankment of the Thames. The spot at which work has begun is on the upper side of Westminster Bridge, opposite the House of Parliament, and the ground to be reclaimed here is to constitute the site of the new St. Thomas's Hospital. Our Engraving shows the present state of the works, and will also convey an idea of the extent of land to be rescued from the bed of the river. The view is taken from the bridge. At the last meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works, Mr. Bazalgette reported in reference to the southern embankment that the contractor, Mr. Webster, had completed 1000 ft. of piling for the dam, and that 1250 ft. run in staking had been driven to an average depth of 16 ft. About 95,000 cubic feet of timber had been used in these works, and about 75,000 ft. more were on the ground, ready for use. This portion of the works is to be pushed on as quickly as possible, in order to admit of a beginning being made with the erection of the hospital.

DR. JOHANN JACOBY, a distinguished member of the Democratic party in the Second Chamber of Prussia, is at present in prison. The six months to which he was condemned do not expire till Feb. 26, or about six weeks after the opening of the Chambers. The right of the Chamber to demand his temporary release will probably be brought before the House at a very early period.

A NEW ORDER OF MERIT.—We understand that it is very probable a new decoration will be instituted immediately. At present the marks of distinction given to those who exhibit gallantry in the rescue of life from shipwreck are conferred by private associations only. It is now likely that a national decoration will take the place of these less formal tokens of recognition. It will be given in her Majesty's name, and will be in the form of a medal, under the designation of "The Albert Medal."—*Sunday Gazette.*

### DEEP-SEA FISHERIES.

THE Commissioners appointed about two years ago to inquire into the state of the deep-sea fisheries of the country, and particularly whether the modern system of fishing has or has not tended to diminish the supply of fish, have made their report, after visiting most of the fishing-stations of the three kingdoms and taking the evidence of the fishermen and others interested in the subject in these different localities.

#### VALUE OF THE FISHERIES.

The Commissioners set forth the value of the fisheries to the country in the following terms:—

The great importance of fish as an article of food may be clearly shown by a comparison of the total supply of fish and beef in London in the course of a single year. Neither in the case of fish nor of beef is it possible to give accurate statistics; but it has been roughly estimated that London consumes 300,000 fat cattle annually, which, at an average weight of 6 cwt. each, would amount to 90,000 tons of beef. At this moment there are between 800 and 900 trawl vessels engaged in supplying the London market with fish; and, assuming the average annual take for each to be 90 tons, this would give a total of some 80,000 tons of trawled fish. This is irrespective of the vast quantities of herrings, sprats, shellfish, and of other descriptions of fish which are supplied by other modes of fishing. The weight of beef and of fish annually consumed in London is thus in no great disproportion. But the price is very different. The fisherman receives, on an average, little over £7 a ton for his fish, prime and offal together; the farmer is readily paid for his beef not less than £60 a ton.

But this disparity of price becomes the more remarkable when tested by the practical experience not of the producer, but of the consumer. The buyer of fish in the west end of London finds that, on the average, his fish costs him more per pound weight than his beef or mutton; and when inquiry is made the salesmen at Billingsgate readily admit that the retail dealer gets an enormous profit on the small quantity of fish he disposes of. It might be thought that the competition of trade would rectify any demand for excessive profit, but in this case it does not seem to have that effect. While the fisherman receives 3d. to 4d. a pound at Billingsgate for prime fish, the buyer is charged 1s. 1s. 3d., and 1s. 6d. a pound by the retailer.

Some check might probably be put upon this extravagant rate of profit by a daily return inserted in the newspapers, and signed by the clerk of the market, of the wholesale prices of the various kinds of fish sold in Billingsgate.

The evidence we have taken, coupled with the increasing scarcity and high price of butchers' meat, leaves no doubt in our minds that a great field for profitable enterprise is open for the application of increased capital and skill to the sea-fisheries of the United Kingdom. Within the last two years a single London company have increased their fishing fleet by ten sailing and two steam vessels, and are now building two more steamers. The same course is being followed by others; and though, by such means, the supply of fish to Billingsgate is continually increasing, it fails to keep pace with the demand. The well-known fishing-grounds in the North Sea are, even yet, only partially fished. The Dogger bank, which has an area of several hundred square miles, and is most prolific of fish, is to a great extent unworked by the trawlers, and new grounds are still being discovered where fish are found in great abundance. Between England and the Continent the average depth of the German Ocean is 90 ft. One fifth of it is occupied by banks which are always being added to by the muddy deposits of the rivers of both countries. In extent they are equal to the superficial area of Ireland. To these banks the animals of the ocean chiefly resort, and this great and prolific field is free to the industry of all.

The produce of the sea around our coasts bears a far higher proportion to that of the land than is generally imagined. The most frequented fishing-grounds are much more prolific of food than the same extent of the richest land. Once in the year, an acre of good land carefully tilled produces a ton of corn or two or three cwt. of meat or cheese. The same area at the bottom of the sea on the best fishing-grounds yields a greater weight of food to the persevering fisherman every week in the year. Five vessels belonging to the same owners in a single night's fishing brought in seventeen tons weight of fish, an amount of wholesome food equal in weight to that of fifty cattle or 300 sheep. The ground which these vessels covered during the night's fishing could not have exceeded an area of fifty acres.

When we consider the amount of care that has been bestowed on the improvement of agriculture, the national societies which are established for promoting it, and the scientific knowledge and engineering skill which have been enlisted in its aid, it seems strange that the sea-fisheries have hitherto attracted so little of the public attention. There are few means of enterprise that present better chances of profit than our sea-fisheries; and no object of greater utility could be named than the development of enterprise, skill, and mechanical ingenuity which might be elicited by the periodical exhibitions and publications of an influential society specially devoted to the British fisheries.

The report is very voluminous, and enters largely into the different modes of fishing, the advantages of each, and the objections made to them, quoting largely from the evidence of the witnesses examined. For these details, however, we cannot find room. We only find space for

#### THE COMMISSIONERS' RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. We advise that all Acts of Parliament which profess to regulate or restrict the modes of fishing pursued in the open sea be repealed, and that unrestricted freedom of fishing be permitted hereafter.

2. With respect to in-shore fishing, although the evidence, so far as it is conclusive, appears to us to prove that the taking of small and immature fish has not yet produced any injurious effect upon the fisheries, it is undoubtedly possible that, by the use of improved engines, the destruction of fry might reach such a pitch as to bear a large, instead of as at present an insignificant, ratio to the destruction effected by the natural enemies of fish, and by conditions unfavourable to their existence.

The existence of such a state of things, however, could only be determined by the examination of trustworthy statistics of the fisheries in question, extending over a considerable number of years; and, should it ever be satisfactorily proved to have arisen, we conceive that the best remedial measures would be to place a restriction upon the size of the fish permitted to be brought ashore, and to subject the possessor of fish below a certain specified size to penalties; but to avoid interfering with the implements of fishermen or with their methods of fishing.

For the present we advise that all Acts of Parliament which profess to regulate or restrict the modes of fishing pursued in shore be repealed, with the exceptions, purely on grounds of police, of the Local Act regulating pilchard-fishing at St. Ives, and, for that part of Loch Fyn which lies above Otter Spit, of the Act prohibiting trawling for herrings in Scotland.

3. While we do not consider it expedient to impose any general restrictions upon the fishing of in-shore oyster or mussel-bed, we strongly recommend that every legislative assistance be given to persons or corporations who may desire to form private beds for oyster or mussel culture.

In doing this it will be necessary to keep two objects in view. In the first place, to provide a means by which companies or persons may easily acquire such a title to adequate portions of the sea-bottom as may make it worth their while to expend capital in stocking and tending the fishery. In the second place, to see that, in so doing, pre-existing rights of fishery are not unduly interfered with, and especially that the property in the sea-bottom so acquired does not extend so far as to confer a virtual monopoly of the whole productive area.

We are disposed to think that the most convenient course would be to empower a public board to grant leases of the sea-bottom, after making proper inquiries into the circumstances of each case. Such power should only be exercised after proper notice to the public at the place proposed to be so dealt with, and with due consideration of the interests of the existing fishing population; and an appeal from the decision of the board should be given to the Privy Council, whose decision should be final and conclusive as to any claim of the public to dredge or fish over the ground so granted. Grants made by the board should be for a limited number of years only; and should be avoidable after a certain number of years, on its being proved to the board that they had not been acted upon. Where a valuable fishery now exists beyond low-water mark no grant of exclusive fishing should be made without the sanction of Parliament; and it would be more satisfactory to the public of the place where any such appropriation might be contemplated if proceedings were first commenced before the board and an inquiry on the spot held by them, or by some person duly authorised by them. The various schemes approved by the board might, we think, be embodied in a general Act, with short reports on the individual cases.

4. We think it a matter of great importance that fishery statistics should be systematically collected. It is only by such means that the constant recurrence of the panics to which the sea-fishery interest has hitherto been subjected can be prevented, and that any trustworthy conclusion can be arrived at regarding the effects of the modes of fishing which are in use. It is probable that the existing coastguard or customs' organisation might be utilised to collect fishery statistics, as is now, to some extent, the case in Ireland.

5. With reference to the police of the fisheries, we advise that an Act be passed embodying the substance of the provisions enumerated above.

We recommend that the due enforcement of this Act should be confided to the Lords of the Admiralty, who should place cruisers, of such a character as the nature of the stations may indicate, on such fishing-stations as may require their presence. The commanders of such cruisers should receive and report upon all complaints that may be made by fishermen, or others, respecting the falling off of the supply of fish in consequence of alleged injurious practices, or respecting the interferences of fishermen one with another not remediable by ordinary process of law.

6. Finally, we advise that all re-trictions which prevent foreign fishermen from entering British or Irish ports for the sale of fish be removed in Great Britain and Ireland; and that measures be taken to secure the like freedom for British fishermen in foreign ports.

### THE CATTLE PLAQUE.

THE following letter has been addressed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to Sir T. D. Lloyd, in reply to a communication from that gentleman:—

Hawarden, Chester, Dec. 26, 1865.

Dear Sir,—The reasons which first offer themselves to my mind against any undertaking by Government to treat the insurance of cattle as a State concern, and to support it by a guarantee from the Exchequer, are of the following character:—

1. The difficulty, and not the difficulty only, but the impossibility, of preventing carelessness, waste, and fraud of every kind, from the first moment it should become known that the ultimate responsibility (beyond a fixed limit, which would at once be found a very, very narrow one) lay with the public purse.

2. The fact that in a number of cases particular districts and landlords have already made their own arrangements, which must have been acted upon. Were Government to move into the field, these good examples would be neutralised, and those who have met their own losses would be called as taxpayers to assist in meeting the losses of other people too.

3. If it shall appear, as is probable, that it is to prevention rather than cure or compensation that we must chiefly look, under Providence, for the mitigation of the calamity, nothing could be so unfortunate as a measure like a State guarantee, which, by relaxing vigilance and the ingenuity of self-interest, would tend to take the minds of men off a subject obviously of the greatest moment, and, as clearly, not yet sounded to the bottom. This objection does not apply to plans of a voluntary nature, where every man would be checked by his neighbours, and each scheme would have its proper adjustments.

4. If the cattle plague should not extend itself on a large scale, and so the losses of a severe character should be confined to a small fraction of the farming class, there seems an obvious impropriety in relieving landlords, neighbours, and rateable property from the duty of assisting, so far as assistance is necessary, those on whom the blow has fallen. And the precedent would be an evil one.

5. But if, on the other hand, the disease should extend very widely, the result must inevitably be felt in a much augmented price of meat. The consumer would then, probably, taking the country all over, pay the same or a larger aggregate amount of money for a greatly diminished quantity. All those who were not smitten in their own cattle would thus profit largely by the disease as producers, while as consumers they would only suffer in common with the community at large. How, then, could the community be asked to pay twice—first, for their meat in extra price, and, secondly, for the cattle lost; while landlords and cultivators of the soil would probably, as a class, have their losses (as in a bad corn year) counterbalanced by a corresponding or greater benefit?

I have thus stated freely what occurs to me, and perhaps in prudence here I ought to end, as my particular official duty ends with considering the merits of any call made on the Exchequer. But the nature of the appeal you make to me induces me to go somewhat further, and to state opinions which I hold with due submission to better judgments, and with all readiness to be corrected by events changing almost from day to day.

The severity with which this calamity falls in particular cases is grievous. It may be met, in part at least, by associations for insurance, which will diminish the difficulty arising from uncertainty—first, by only dealing with a proportion of the loss; secondly, by widening their local area. Then there is a special claim, though one varying with circumstances, upon the landlord for help. Then there is the resource, should the evil greatly grow, of public subscription, in which I hope we should find classes that have received benefit in other great visitations willing to return it. There is, lastly, the resource of some legal charge upon rateable property of the description liable to suffer. But the particular application of these considerations must depend upon circumstances in great part as yet undeveloped.

In the mean time, I believe the first of all duties is to study in every way the subject of prevention. The public mind is now in a state to endure measures of restraint in larger measure than before the fact of serious and progressive increase was established. And the powers in the hands of local authorities are, I believe, as large as actual circumstances justify or as general opinion would sustain.

So much for prevention by restraint upon traffic in beasts. But there are other measures of prevention, to be taken by each man for himself, which are of great moment, but which (as far as my information goes) would appear to have been likewise less, or less intelligently, considered. I hear from time to time of cases in which substances are introduced into yards, and sheds, and cowhouses, for prevention, with no aim more distinct than that of creating a strong smell; whereas the two main objects to be taken into view, I conceive, must be these: to neutralise the poison, especially by the removal of all substances on which it would most easily lay hold; and to improve the air by substances which increase the life-sustaining element in it, and thus raising the tone of health, so as to remove or diminish that predisposition in the animals on which so much depends, and which appears in cases of this description to be what is rudely called a low state or tone of body.

I shall not attempt to enter upon questions of chemistry with which I am unacquainted; and I assume that the best which any man can do at the present moment is to state any facts within his knowledge which give a presumption of being possibly useful; certainly appearing for the present out of the question. At this place one medical man—a scientific, able, and cautious inquirer—has tentatively advised several of our farmers to adopt simple measures of precaution, which I may in a rough way (without his authority) describe as follow:—1. To remove from the cowhouses all substances probably affording a ready lodgment to the poison. 2. To restore and invigorate the atmosphere by phosphorus. 3. To keep the stock within walls, as no agency of the kind mentioned can be effective in the open air. The disease has now been in this neighbourhood for weeks. It came into the parish, I think, about a week ago. It has partially surrounded farms where these measures have been adopted, and thus far they remain unscathed. We must not presume to answer for to-morrow; but I have not yet happened to hear of any facts so well worth attention. I may add that the circumstances of its appearance here seem to suggest that the disease passes by a diffused movement in the atmosphere, and not only, though in all likelihood much more virulently, by contagion. Likewise that there are various points of detail which, if stated, would go strongly to support what I have said of the preventive measures. One word more of the measures themselves. At any moment the disease may appear on the exempted farms. But the evidence of their failure would certainly not approach completeness until it was known what proportion of the stock was seized, and what proportion of the seized had recovered. The return for the week ending Dec. 16 gives us the following figures:—

	Cases.	Died.	Recovered.
County of Ches or .. .. .	1423	534	46
All Scotland .. .. .	4909	1075	395

Thus, in Cheshire, the deaths are 37½ per cent of the cases; in Scotland, 22 per cent; and in Cheshire the recoveries are 8½ per cent of the deaths; in Scotland, 34 per cent.

I beg you to excuse any error which may have crept into this letter, and I remain, dear Sir, your very faithful servant,

W. E. GLADSTONE.

Sir Thomas D. Lloyd, Bart., M.P.

P.S.—In Cheshire allowance must be made for dairy stock; but the inequalities elsewhere are many. The recoveries in all England are to the deaths as one to eight; in Forfarshire, where the numbers attacked are larger than in any county except York, they are two in seven.

SOUTHEY, or Forwood, the murderer, was executed at Maidstone, on Thursday. In accordance with the regulations and the order of the Secretary of State, no strangers, the representatives of the press included, were allowed to be present.

NEWLY-DISCOVERED PORTRAIT OF SHAKESPEARE.—A beautiful portrait in oil of this great poet has just been discovered, and is now the property of Chas. Clay, M.D., of Manchester. The style of painting and richness of colour and finish are quite equal to, and not unlike the best of, Sir Peter Lely's, though evidently of an earlier date. All who have seen it acknowledge it as being the most pleasing of all the portraits of Shakespeare extant, and what is of still greater importance in so interesting a subject, it exhibits more completely that intellectual capacity in which the other likenesses, whether in oil, engraving, or sculpture are so painfully deficient. The general outline is similar to the Chandos portrait, now in the National Portrait Gallery, but in execution far surpasses it. We may remark that the sugar-loaf form of the cranium, so generally to be observed in the busts and portraits of Shakespeare, is avoided in Dr. Clay's portrait. No anatomist or physiologist could with propriety admit the generally received formation of Shakespeare's head, for the height of the forehead requires a lateral expanse to support it, in order to accommodate that full power and breadth of intellect especially characteristic of the poet. Dr. Clay's portrait gives breadth proportionate to the altitude. The face is thoughtful and slightly touched with melancholy, the eyes being remarkably expressive and pleasing. Many critics have objected to the Chandos portrait on account of its foreign cast of features; here we have the type of a true Englishman of the Elizabethan period; there are no earrings, as in the Chandos, the clothing being simple and unadorned; the collar is without strings, less in size, and where it meets in front shows a portion of the throat below the beard; the collar itself is not so stiff as in other portraits. If we might venture an opinion from the luxuriance of the hair, which is of a rich brown, tinted with auburn, this picture must have been painted at an earlier period of life than the Chandos portrait. The face is nearly full, the hair higher over the forehead, and falling partially and gracefully over the collar on the left side. The portrait has been carefully relined, and is in an old-fashioned frame of the period. There is not quite so much of the body in view as in the Chandos, four buttons only below the vest being visible, whilst in the Chandos there are seven or eight. The size is 24 in. by 20. Dr. Clay is in possession of proofs of its having been the property of one family for more than a century, and is now making further inquiries as to its history. Many capable of judging have seen this painting, and all pronounce it a genuine antique, and it is in the finest possible preservation.



## Literature.

*The Old Ledger.* By G. L. M. STRAUSS. 3 vols. London: Tinsley Brothers.

Some men are born novelists, some achieve novel-writing, some have novel-writing thrust upon them. Dr. Strauss belongs to the second class. His motto, "In magnis voluisse, sat est," informs us that in great things it is enough to have good intentions; but the Doctor has gone further, and has "achieved" a novel. When Sterne asked La Fleur if he could do this, that, and the other, La Fleur answered that he had all the dispositions in the world. "Tis enough for heaven," said Sterne, "and should be enough for us." Dr. Strauss, however, has brought to his task a skill and an energy that are much greater than his "dispositions" could have been. He engineers a story, rather than tells it; he is a critic of facts rather than a raconteur—though, indeed, he has plenty to tell. A great culture, a sort of ubiquitous experience, and a wizard-like ingenuity, are conspicuous in every chapter of the book. And yet the author is not a storyteller; it seems more as if he had invented a Brazen Head or an Anthropoglossos that could dictate a novel when you turned a crank, than as if he were himself a narrator *ex animo*. We have, in fact, little doubt that Dr. Strauss could invent such a Head; and, in any case, his ingenuity, his buoyancy, his young-heartedness, his insight, and his mastery over difficulties, place his volumes among the most readable we have ever seen. He has, besides, a peculiar humour of his own, which is no more easy to describe than the melancholy of Jacques, and is, in truth, a sort of counterpart of it. Something of the diplomat, something of the courier, something of the free forester of the salon, something of the army-surgeon, something of the jovial friar (if he wrote verse, Dr. Strauss would resemble Father Mahony), something of the man of letters; all these make up a curious mixture. To them, also, must be added another item—the author's English, which, in spite of its wonderful accuracy, has a *sonorous* of another idiom about it. Nothing can smother that flavour, which is a far more shy and subtle matter than anything like, for instance, such a mere turn of expression as we get on pages 58 and 199 of vol. ii., "For, however so much it may shock," &c. Cases of this order are, indeed, incredibly few. There is another peculiarity about the style, too—one which is not common in the writing of vigorous men. We mean the frequency with which words are emphasised. This is usually supposed to be the trick of a lady's letter; but the fact is that it is conspicuous in some of the strongest writing of our own day. In the works of Mr. Carlyle we find that there are, on an average, eight words a page italicised; and one of the most accomplished and effective of modern journalists (a name which does not at all cover the pretensions of so able a man) has the same peculiarity.

"The Old Ledger" is a good title, and the use made of it by Dr. Strauss is admirable. The ledger belongs to the old banking firm of Ellesdee and Co., and it is made to contain a votive inscription, a solemn pledge of commercial honour, which is subscribed by everyone in succession who comes into the firm. The interest of the story turns in a great degree upon the sort of difficulty which so often makes an intricate out of a simple situation in real life. There is a formal wrong committed under pressure, but it involves no injury to anyone. Louis Ellesdee, whose majority had been fixed by his father's will at five and twenty, anticipates his legal rights by drawing, in another name, a cheque upon the bank for £2000. This is, in law, a forgery; and his elder brother sends him out of the country on a commercial errand, ignorant, because Louis was forced to keep silence, that Louis had done the thing to save from ruin Edward Fitzgerald, the brother of his betrothed, Edith Fitzgerald. In the sequel, Richard Ellesdee, the elder brother, is betrayed into doing things which involve really greater moral risks than the "forgery" by Louis, and the honour of the firm, pledged in the Old Ledger, comes to be tottering, even to its fall. But it is saved—though we shall not say how. In the crisis and final disclosure following up these double lines of moral experience of the two brothers lies the "moral" of the book; and we have to congratulate Dr. Strauss upon having worked to its close a most ingenious and hazardous plot without one touch of real cynicism—without leaving a single strain upon the reader's thoughts. He may feel himself in a moral maze, but never without the clue. Dr. Strauss may sometimes poke him in the ribs and say, with a chuckle, "You've dropped it!" but the laugh is too youthful, too good-natured, too affectionate, to provoke anything in reply from the reader's heart but a "Get out with you, and don't tease me!" The moral *caractéristique* of the book is, in truth, that very rare and peculiar kind of gentle sincerity which is only found where something of what is best in the best women has been kneaded up in the material of which a man is made. There is something "wicked" about Dr. Strauss, but it is the wickedness of Rosalind in Arden—"by this hand, it would not kill a fly." We wish, indeed, we could think that there is any large number of readers who will be sufficiently at one with the author to feel the thorough goodness of his book.

Now and then we are carried rather tiresomely far back in criticisms. Who wants to be bothered again with the old Disraeli-Thiers-Wellington plagiarism? The author's way of speaking of a (mere) betrothal is, we fancy, very German; but we deeply venerate the German custom in that particular, and only wish it were English. Why does not Dr. Strauss write a Criticism of English Life? He could make such a book far more interesting than a novel, especially if he carried into the work the moral courage which he has displayed in "The Old Ledger," at, for instance, pages 208, 209, of volume i., in the paragraph ending *Liberari animam*.

We cordially recommend the book. "The Old Ledger" is one of the most remarkable books of the year. The mere story is, we repeat, capital in itself, and the criticism with which it is interspersed is such a curious mixture of worldly knowledge and hermit-innocence, the reading and tastes of the England of the Regency, the rapid freedom of the England of to-day, and the sympathies of the German, that nobody can help being entertained by it.

*See-Saw.* A Novel. By FRANCESCO ABATI. Edited by W. Winwood Reade. Two volumes. London: Moxon and Co.

"See-Saw" suggests the beautiful story of the farm-labourer who described the beer sent out into the fields as "Just the thing for us." Pressed for an explanation, he said, "Why, if it had been a little better, we should not have got it; and, if it had been a little worse, we could not have drunk it." So it is with "See-Saw." Had it been a little better it would have been folly to have expected it from Mr. Winwood Reade; and, if it had been a little worse, nobody could have read it. In saying Mr. Reade, we "speak advisedly, as fools say in the House of Commons," as Mr. Disraeli says somewhere; for the Italian film of Francesco Abati may be seen through, and Mr. Reade stands out in the clear light of authorship. However, to make no such mistake as speaking harshly of the wrong man, let it be understood that all the praise is intended for the distinguished foreigner, and all the praise for the no-less distinguished English editor. However, there may be little need for such sifting, for, in a preface addressed to the Signor, Mr. Reade says, "I shall be happy to edit your work, and to accept all the responsibilities which may happen to be attached to that arduous charge." He thinks it will displease the English mind, not because of jests about foggy weather and dull moons, but because throughout the Roman Catholic religion is praised and the Protestant ridiculed. The "poetry and refinement" of the one have been opposed to the "narrowness and bigotry" of the other, &c. Now, having read the book as well as the preface, and after the preface, and so being naturally on the watch, we desire to say that the preface conveys a very false impression. It would be more easy than pleasant (ordinary simple readers would not thank us for the trouble) to adduce many passages of which the two positions are precisely reversed; whilst, as a rule, the impression conveyed is the

opinion of the Irish critic, that one is just as bad as the other, and a great deal worse. Indeed, the author or editor is so habitually vituperative and contradictory on all religions that it is only in the very last paragraph of the whole book that any definite idea of his opinions can be obtained; and then it will only be taken because supposed to come from the lips of an Englishman, Dr. Darlington—who, by-the-way, is the only decent gentleman in the book. The Doctor says, "It gives me pleasure to pluck a man out of the jaws of death; and yet I know that this life has many miseries, and that, after all, he must die some day. But, to save a heart from anguish and woe, or from sinfulness and shame—ah! that gives me happiness, indeed. It is a happiness which Heaven has allowed me often to enjoy. Under a doctor's disguise, I go as a missionary among suffering souls, and my labours have not been all in vain. This is my religion, Maddalena; and these are the prayers which I offer up to God."

Few people will feel inclined to be harsh towards whatsoever religion it may be of which such practice is the outward and visible sign. But it takes more than six hundred pages to understand this; and, therefore, the book having much of this element in it, it seems advisable to explain the matter at once, in order that parents and guardians may not unwittingly place religious controversy into young people's hands. For such, even the "Religious Courtship in Defoe," has been objected to—as Miss Primrose knows well. And, before leaving the subject, will not most people prefer to keep their medical men distinct from their spiritual advisers? But, if Mr. Reade's system is to prevail, there should at least be reciprocity, and we shall not fail to send for the Archbishop of Canterbury the next time we want a leg cut off.

The story of "See-Saw," the name of which arises from the various mental dilemmas in which the characters find themselves, is one of decided power; whilst it wants originality, and is here and there even ludicrously common-place. Still, the author, whoever he may be, writes so vigorously and so well that his story has deep interest in more than one way. Some of his people discuss art and music, in which they shine far more than in life and manners. There are some singularly good scenes, especially the gambling at Baden and the return of the Russian Baron in the midst of his Baroness's orgie. Mr. Reade had better close with description, and drop philosophy and misanthropy. His character of Tenoure may be clever, but it is repulsive and untrue. Something else, also, he must drop—or, rather, something else he must acquire—which is a little delicacy for the English market. To call some of his scenes warm would be to mislead—they are gross, sensual, indecent. Another thing, also, must be learnt—a little respect for society. Mr. Reade, or Signor Abati, whichever it may be, found some friend unwise enough to take him to a club of gentlemen; and the proceedings of the evening he professes to report with lofty disgust. The whole chapter conveys the idea of a disappointed youngster who has been expelled from that same club for bad manners or for neglecting to pay the proper subscriptions. Our friend the foreigner cannot know English manners, or he would never draw so minute and libellous a caricature as that of Mr. Northumberland Something—whatever he may be. It bears the mark of private spite; and, in gratifying undignified revenge, the foreign gentleman has contrived to make himself far more obnoxious than the object of his attack is, according to his own account. But it takes foreigners a long time to learn the habits and courtesy of English gentlemen.

*Crimson Pages. A Story of the Sixteenth Century.* By JOHN TILLOTSON. London: S. O. Beeton.

Mr. Tillotson has in this volume accomplished three things—he has told a pretty, pathetic, and interesting tale; he has supplied a considerable amount of useful historical information; and he has entered an emphatic protest against the intolerance of over-zealous professors of religion, who pervert the precepts of the gospel of peace into excuses for the perpetration of horrid cruelty, and make anxiety, real or pretended, for the truth a cover under which to deal destruction round the land on all they deem their foes. The scene of the story is Rotterdam, and the incidents are supposed to have occurred during the persecution of the Baptists—or re-baptists, as they were then called—in the sixteenth century by the adherents of the Church of Rome. Mr. Tillotson, however, must not be understood as the opponent of Papal persecution only; he denounces intolerance wherever and in whosoever it exists; and, in doing so, is compelled to condemn the conduct of nearly all religious sects. His fourth chapter is well worth studying by all, but especially by those who are impressed with the notion that they hold infallible truth, and that those who differ from them must needs be wrong. A very numerous class this, and much in want of being shown to what dangerous lengths men are apt to be carried when once they adopt the idea that they are justified in using force to correct the errors of opponents. The history of religious persecutions is fruitful in proofs that there is no zeal so blind and intolerant as that which is prompted by religious fervour; that there are no tyrants so ruthless as clerical tyrants; that every sect would persecute its opponents if it had the power; and that those sects which have persecuted most—the Roman Catholic, for instance—have only done so because, unfortunately, they have possessed most power. The lesson to be drawn from these facts is, that religious sects, and especially a professional clergy, ought, under no circumstances, to be intrusted with civil power; for if they are, they will infallibly abuse it. This is the lesson of history, as it is that of Mr. Tillotson's book, and is well worthy of all acceptance. In teaching it in the very effective manner he has in this story, the author of "Crimson Pages" has done good service to mankind.

*The Adventures of Don Quixote de la Mancha.* Translated from the Spanish of Miguel Cervantes Saavedra by CHARLES JARVIS. London: Routledge and Sons.

Who that has read and relished—and who has not?—"The Adventures of Don Quixote" but will be glad to renew acquaintances with the old knight through the medium of this very handsome edition of Jarvis's translation? For our own part, we have enjoyed a re-reading of our old favourite hugely. The book is in all respects well got up: it is clearly printed, is neatly bound, and is very prettily and quaintly illustrated. The adventures of the last of the knights-errant and the pithy sayings of his squire, the inimitable Sancho, could not be presented to the public in a more pleasing form, and we hope the work, as it deserves, will have a large sale.

*The Great Gun: An Eccentric Biography, with Preposterous Illustrations.* By CHARLES M. ROSS. London: Ward, Lock, and Tyler.

If the author of this book had as much good taste as he has powers of caricature and whimsical comicality, he might produce a work really deserving of personal; but then he would never have published this one. Those who read "The Great Gun" may take their choice as to which would be the greater advantage. We have no doubt about the matter ourselves, and would willingly have sacrificed what fun is to be derived from the broad and vulgar humour of the present work for one where all the good might have been retained, and the vulgarity expunged. We would recommend Mr. Ross to try again, and strive less at being "preposterous," both in letterpress and illustration.

*The Sparrowgrass Papers; or, Living in the Country.* London: Routledge and Sons.

This is a shilling reprint of a faded American book which well bears the light of day again. It was written in 1856, and so had four years' start of the period when the war stirred up literature, as well as everything else, to brutality and coarseness. It contrasts favourably with the modern stream of American lightness and humour. Its fun is not powerful, but its very weakness is refreshing after the recent stimulants in bad spelling and flaming colours. The author (if he will not feel offended) writes much like an English

gentleman, and quotes the poets beautifully. He describes the disasters which happen to town people on first being fixed in the country. The expensive hippopotamus potatoes get boiled or roasted instead of planted, and all the hens prove to be roosters. The cattle get into the garden, the pig into the parlour. When the watch-dog is turned out he scratches to come in, and when he is turned in he scratches to get out; but he is an excellent watch-dog, because whenever there is a suspicious character about he rushes in and hides behind the stove. Cucumbers, horses, and boats, together with clever, patented contrivances of all kinds, and useful in a country-house, turn out equally disastrous; but they are all regarded with cheerfulness, which is always on the confines of humour, and communicates a happy frame of mind. The whole book breathes of the country and of human kindness; and one (Godiva) at least of the two or three little anecdotes interspersed is told in pure and graceful language.

*The Boy's Own Volume of Fact, Fiction, History, and Adventure.* Illustrated. London: S. O. Beeton.

This is a collection of stories, essays, &c., chiefly reprinted from Mr. Beeton's *Boy's Magazine*, and edited by the publisher, who has shown much judgment in his selection, and has produced a volume of high excellence, which is sure to be a favourite with those to whom it is specially addressed. Where everything is so good, it seems invidious to find fault; but we really do not like the effort at quaintness exhibited in the second title of the leading story, and at which we often used to marvel when it was appearing in the serial form. This story is by Mr. Francis Davenant, and is called "Hubert Ellis: a Story of King Richard's Days the Second." Why this odd way of putting it? Could Mr. Davenant not have said simply "A Story of the Days of King Richard the Second"? which would have been both more euphonious and better sense. Of course it is impossible in the space at our disposal to mention in detail all the contributions and contributors in a volume of 548 pages; but we may say that, besides the author already named, we have here papers from the pens of Mr. James Greenwood; Captain Drayson, R.A.; F. Harwood; W. B. Stevens; W. H. D. Adams; Branger; the Rev. J. G. Wood, &c. We heartily commend the book to our young readers.

*The Boy's Own Treasury of Sports and Pastimes.* By the Rev. J. G. WOOD, J. H. PEPPER, BENNETT, MILLER, and Others. With upwards of 400 illustrations. London: Routledge and Sons.

This is the very book for boys to possess, whether their lot be cast in country or in town, in hut or in palace. Here we have details of every sort of game and sport, together with instructions as to keeping pet animals, lessons in chemistry, the mechanical arts, electricity, galvanism, magnetism, optical experiments, &c.—in fact, everything a boy can wish to try his hand at, from such juvenile pastimes as the game of "touch" up to very recondite scientific studies; and yet all described in such plain and simple language, and so excellently illustrated, that even the dullest lad that ever lived should be able easily to follow the teaching. We doubt not but the book will be in the hands of, and be a favourite source of study with, thousands of boys in the future, as we believe it has been with thousands in the past.

*Sam Spangles; or, The History of a Harlequin.* By STIRLING COYNE. London: Routledge and Sons.

This is a volume of the shilling series, in which Mr. Stirling Coyne takes us behind the scenes by strange ways. He describes a gentleman who haunts action-rooms, and who one day has a harlequin's suit knocked down to him at some fabulously high price. Delighted with his purchase, he hangs it over a chair, and it may be concluded, falls asleep after dinner; for the harlequin's suit fills out bodily, spins its head round, and tells its adventures. These are the story of a poor boy, who has been a street beggar, a barber's boy—something of everything, in fact—until his fortune seems made as a harlequin, when he suddenly finds out his parentage, and owns a pretty fortune. Stage life is treated very kindly, and Sam Spangles falls in with warm-hearted people, who, however, suffer sometimes from his humorous eccentricities. Mr. Coyne does not profess to be deep, but his shallows are clear and sparkling, and seem to reflect much of what is goodness and laughter in life.

## TWO POETS.

*Lancelot. With Sonnets and other Poems.* By WILLIAM FULFORD, M.A., Pembroke College, Oxford. London, Moxon and Co. *Lost and Found. A Pastoral.* By J. CRAWFORD WILSON, Author of "Elsie," "Flights to Fairyland," "Jonathan Oldaker," "Gitanilla," &c. London: William Freeman.

These books are both got up with admirable taste. Mr. Wilson's small quarto tells a story well, and is really pleasant reading. Some of the pictures are very pretty; and many poems of higher pretension and even more free from fault are far more tedious than this little daisy of a pastoral.

Mr. Fulford has studied the art of poetry more than Mr. Wilson, and, as we guess, under more favourable conditions. He is not less imitative than Mr. Wilson, though his models are different. Those who would like to see the story of Mr. Tennyson's "Idylls of the King" in another version—to our mind a more affecting one—but told in blank verse of the same cadence, may find genuine pleasure in Mr. Fulford's volume. Now and then, turning over these chastened pages, we are arrested by a thought or a grace of expression which is new, and some of the sonnets are charming.

This is all we can say. There is a large class of writers who produce matter which seems often on the point of becoming poetry, but in whom the promise is not kept for many lines together. They have enough of the poet in them to be affected by the best models, and enough culture to be capable of throwing off what is, at the worst, not offensive. Having no stronger tendencies, they write verses, but they have not intensity enough to make them poets, though they have enough to make them write verses with a certain delight. In the cases of the two books before us the delight is strong enough to communicate something of a pleasant infection to the reader, but not sufficient to make him place the writers apart in the order of singers.

**THE REVOLVED ZOUAVES.**—A letter from Mexico gives some account of the measures adopted with respect to the Zouaves who had revolted at Martinique. It says:—"On their arrival at the Mexican capital they were received on the plain in front of the citadel by the whole of the French garrison, forming a square, and with arms loaded. A battery was also pointed in their direction. The Marshal, ordering the new comers to draw up in line, commanded them to pile arms and then to advance twenty paces. While they were executing that movement two companies came behind and got between them and their arms. All attempt at disobedience was then impossible. The gendarmes next came forward and took into custody twenty-five, whom they handcuffed and took to prison. The others inhabit an old convent, where they are to remain until they pass before a military tribunal."

**A THIEF'S DIARY.**—On the 19th of December there died suddenly at Wehaken, United States, from congestion of the brain, one Winkelmann, a German Lutheran minister, who was employed as a professor of languages in the Polytechnic Institute, kept by a Spanish gentleman named Villavieja, who attended by young Spanish gentlemen from Cuba. The examination of the deceased's effects revealed some remarkable transactions in which he had been engaged. For some time past various articles belonging to the young gentlemen had disappeared in a mysterious manner. In July, two of them at play on the lawn placed their vests and watches under a tree, and on going there to resume them could not find them. Suspicion fell upon the servant girl and the gardener, and they were both dismissed. The professor was never suspected. After his decease, in looking over his effects a number of pawn-tickets were found for clothing, watches, jewellery, and other articles. A diary was also found in which he kept a minute daily record of all his transactions, and in which he had noted down all the thefts committed by him, and the disposition he had made of the property. Under the date of July 6 was entered:—"Half-past nine, p.m., drank a bottle of wine; stole it." After the search for the watches and vest was the following entry:—"They have sent a policeman to search for the watches; he will find them, oh! yes—perhaps." His getting intoxicated in New York and sleeping in the station-house was also set down in the diary. It contains such particulars that the police expect to recover much of the stolen property.



### "THE PLEASURES OF MEMORY."

We had lately occasion to mention the new illustrated edition of Rogers's "Pleasures of Memory," published by Messrs. Sampson Low and Co.; and to speak in high terms of the style in which the book has been brought out, and especially of the illustrations. These are by various artists, including Messrs. S. Palmer, J. D. Watson, W. S. Coleman, Alfred Cooper, E. M. Whimperis, Charles Green, and J. W. Keyl. The designs of each of these artists are excellent; and we have selected that of Mr. Cooper, of "The



THE GIPSIES' ENCAMPMENT.—(FROM LOW'S NEW EDITION OF "THE PLEASURES OF MEMORY.")

"Gipsies' Encampment," as a specimen, both because it is in itself picturesque and artistic, and because it illustrates a phase of life that is fast passing away from amongst us. The following is the passage of the poem to which the Engraving refers:—

Down by you hazel copse, at evening, blaz'd  
The gipsy's faggot—there we stood and gaz'd;  
Gaz'd on her sun-burnt face with silent awe,  
Her tatter'd mantle, and her hood of straw;  
Her moving lips, her caldron brimming o'er;  
The drowsy brood that on her back she bore,

Imps, in the barn with mousing owlet bred,  
From rifed roost at nightily revel fed;  
Whose dark eyes flash'd thro' locks of blackest shade,  
When in the breeze the distant watch-dog bay'd:—  
And heroes fled the Sibyl's mutter'd call,  
Whose elfin prowess scal'd the orchard-wall.

### ROUTLEDGE'S NEW SCHOOL-BOOKS.

THIS is a great age for improved school-books. The publishers vie with each other as to who shall produce the best helps for the education of the young; and the only difficulty parents and teachers can experience is in making a selection where so much that is good is brought before their notice. It is no doubt true that among the mass of educational works constantly issuing from the press nowadays, there is, and must be, some few that are questionable both in point of taste and utility; but it is easy to avoid the trash—the standards of comparison are so numerous and excellent; and, taken as a whole, the educational works which have come under our notice of late have been of a superior order. Without instituting any invidious comparisons, or in any degree underrating the labours of other publishers, we may adduce, as specimens of really good and useful school-books, the series lately issued by Messrs. Routledge and Sons, which are all up to, if not above, average merit. Their "British Spelling-Book" particularly is deserving of every commendation. It begins with the alphabet in large and small letters, and progresses onwards, by easy and natural gradations, to lessons of words of four and more letters. Two features have been carefully kept in view by the editor—namely, the clearness of the type and the gradual and easy steps which lead from the simple words to the more complex. The work consists of 158 pages, out of which six are devoted to lessons of two letters, fourteen to words of three letters, twenty to words of four letters, and so on in proportion to the progress made by the pupil. An easy and simple explanation, in rhyme, of the nine parts of speech closes the work, which embraces within its limits the contents of several books compiled upon old-fashioned plans. Another most important feature is that the "Spelling-Book" is illustrated by 300 engravings, made expressly to suit the capabilities of young children. The little pupil thus receives a lesson on words and one on objects at one and the same time, each helping to impress the other upon the memory, while both tend to develop the understanding. The

advantage of this system of teaching will be apparent to all from the Engraving which we copy from the book, representing "blowing soap-bubbles," and which is one of the most complicated in the work, but shows the care which has been taken with the getting-up of this most useful help to education. We append the corresponding passage from the letterpress as a sample of the literary portion of the book:—

#### BLOWING SOAP-BUBBLES.

"Dick is blowing soap-bubbles!" cries little Kitty. "Come and see! come and see, Polly!"

So Polly came running, and brought with her a clean new pipe which her father had given her, that she might try to blow bubbles too.

There sat Dick in the wash-house on a wooden stool, with a saucer in his hand, that had a little bit of soap in it, and some soapy water out of the washing-tub; and Kitty sat on the ground and looked at him, and shouted, and clapped her hands for joy as he blew the bubbles, and they floated away in the air.

Oh, what a large one he is blowing now. It will never float away. It will burst; and so it does burst, but Dick does not care. He can blow as many as he likes, and the cost is not much.

Messrs. Routledge have also just issued a series of seven nursery books, with coloured illustrations, which are deserving of a word of commendation from the care with which they have been printed by Messrs. Leighton Brothers. Two of these little books are alphabets, one being entitled "The Trades of London," and showing the various occupations of the artisan world. The other is called "Tom Thumb's Alphabet," and is illustrated by pictures of men, occupations, sports, characteristic sketches, &c. The other five books are of a miscellaneous character, and embrace several old favourite nursery rhymes newly illustrated by Harrison Weir and other artists. Among them we have "Cinderella," "The Three Kittens," "The Cat's Tea Party," "The Five Little Pigs," and a collection embracing "Old King Cole," "Goosey Gander," &c. All are excellent, and cannot fail to be useful.

### TWELFTH DAY AT THE ROYAL CHAPEL, ST. JAMES'S.

SATURDAY last being Twelfth Day, a curious old ceremonial was observed at the Royal Chapel, St. James's Palace. A full choral service was performed, during which two members of her Majesty's



BLOWING SOAP-BUBBLES.—(FROM ROUTLEDGE'S "BRITISH SPELLING-BOOK.")

household, who attended for the purpose, deposited on the altar offerings, in the Queen's name, of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The custom is held to be commemorative of a similar offering made by the "wise men of the East" 1865 years ago, when they in this way did homage to the Holy Child of Bethlehem. Our Engraving represents the ceremony of presenting the Queen's offerings.

### MADRID AND ITS PEOPLE.

For some time to come Madrid will be the centre of European



TWELFTH DAY AT THE ROYAL CHAPEL, ST. JAMES'S.



## M A D R I D S T R E E T C H A R A C T E R S.



VENDER OF HAT-BOXES.



PIEMAN.

interest, since it is suddenly agitated with one of those threatenings of revolution called by the Spaniards *pronunciamientos*, of which few people know the actual origin and fewer still can see the end. The population of the Spanish capital cannot be said to represent the usually-received opinions as to the national appearance and character; but they are, perhaps, the most difficult to deal with of all Spaniards; they have, for the most part, abandoned the national costume, which is still retained in the provinces and in many of the principal towns. They have adopted semi-French manners, and even their physical appearance differs considerably from that of the true, Spanish people of remoter cities. Even those lower orders of

Madrid, the itinerant vendors, the water-carriers, the beggars, and the strange idlers who once made the streets so picturesque, are gradually abandoning those gaudy and of en graceful costumes which made a visit to Madrid so suggestive and its pleasure so piquant. The *manola*, even, is fond of French fashions, instead of retaining that wonderful black silk mantilla, which fell so gracefully from the comb to the shoulders, and was both cloak and veil; her skirts have descended farther towards those well-turned ankles which were once so freely exhibited, and it may be doubted whether she now carries that concealed dagger (the *navaja*) which she was traditionally believed to be ready to use either for her own defence,

or to avenge an injury to her friend of the circus and the bull-ring. It is to the *Puerta del Sol* that the visitor must repair for almost everything he is likely to want, and here it is that he will see most of the people of Madrid, of which it is, in fact, the Alpha and the Omega. There are to be found the omnibuses, the hackney-coaches, the newsvendors, the post-office; and even the time of the city is regulated by the clock there. If a Madrilenian is directing you to any part of the city the chances are he will begin with—"Go to the *Puerta del Sol*, and turn so and so;" or if you lose yourself in Madrid, and find that you are in a broad handsome street, be sure that it will conduct you to the famous



GAMESELLER.



ORANGE-GIRL.



gate of the sun; for all the principal avenues lead thither. The Calle Mayor leading to the palace and the Royal Quarter, the Carrera de San Geronimo leading to the museum, and the Calle de Alcalá, which is the finest street in Madrid, the grand approach to the principal promenade, and which might almost be called the most beautiful in the world, the palaces and houses are so handsome, ending with the splendid building where Espartero once lived, now used for the artillery, and the fashionable Prado.

For those who care more for the people than the architecture La Puerta del Sol is still more interesting. It is the resort of all the beggars in Madrid; of the picturesque Maragotos, and other strangers from the provinces; of all, indeed, who have found their way to the capital seeking for fortune, many of whom have little other clothing than the Spanish cloak which they wear in all weathers. The eastern side of the square, or the one opposite to the Gubernacion, is usually the most crowded part of this sunny locality, the favourite lounge of all the idlers about town.

During the present lull, which is ominously like that which precedes a storm, Madrid is sepulchrally quiet, and there is ample opportunity for observing the characteristics of the people, since the Puerta del Sol and the top of the Carrera de San Geronimo are crowded at some hours of the day, especially late in the afternoon. Then the itinerant vendors of all sorts of merchandise ply their trade, not, however, without a smouldering expression of gloomy interest in probable events. In regarding some of these people one cannot help noticing with surprise the similarity of their features to those of the Irish, and, but for the extreme difference of climate and complexion, the resemblance would be still more remarkable. Notwithstanding the queer make of his foot and head gear, the former being something between a slipper and a cricketer's shoe, and the latter the sombrero over the usual silk handkerchief, the seller of hat-boxes, of whom we publish an engraving, has a face which might belong to a disguised Milesian. Wonderful constructions are those Spanish hat-boxes—vast, resonant, clumsy receptacles, which nobody but a Spaniard who regards his Paris silk hat with veneration and respect could possibly submit to—one may see such occupying the luggage-vans of railway-trains; and it is a certain conclusion that, wherever they are met with in such circumstances there is a fellow, sententious, and yet keen-eyed and lively group somewhere near deftly making paper cigarettes, the smoke from which they blow through their nostrils in supreme enjoyment; or lunching amicably from roast pork, fruit, and some of that rich pastry of which they are mostly so fond.

The mention of pastry reminds one of the pastry-vender, be-capped, be-aproned, and carrying a whisk with which to keep his sweet merchandise from the greedy flies of Madrid, like other insects in that favoured capital, are a "caution." Custard and ratafia are the great charms of all pastry to a Spaniard, but they have also a way of cooking fritters which is in itself a high art; and yet they have a proverb which says, "Never call a man a fritter-maker." They have also a saying that "eggs make a thousand dishes," and they have learned to put these most useful of all culinary adjuncts to capital account, as our pastry-vender of the Puerta del Sol well knows.

One of the most picturesque fellows of this itinerant tribe is he who comes from the provinces with game—hares, quails, pheasants, and whatever may hap; he himself, perhaps, carrying his frugal repast of grapes, bread, salted stockfish, and cigaritos, in the rim of his round black hat, beneath which depends a dirty wisp of gaudy handkerchiefs to keep the nape of his neck from the sun. Wonderful are the partridges, the wild ducks, and pheasants of a Spanish dinner at a first-class hotel; more wonderful still the intensity of that civet flavour which distinguishes the more debatable composition in which the hare and the rabbit is steeped.

Oranges! There is nothing very picturesque in this poor drudge-like wench who comes shambling past with her rich sonorous cry and her heavy baskets; but the baskets themselves are laden with such ripe luscious golden fruit as might tempt a Greenlander, to say nothing of a hot stranger gasping at the sun's own gate. Off with a strip of moist plumper rind, and then, with the great globe of winey juice pressed to your lips, lean well back, and squeeze and suck in ecstasy. Or would you have green figs, pomegranates, grapes of that rich dull-green hue that is so suggestive of food and drink at once, and both ethereal? These you will not get of our fruit-vender; but you may look out for melon, cool, fresh, and fragrant, or the reverse; but if it be the real, melting, juicy melon that the Spaniards love, it is a thing of beauty and a joy for three minutes. There is many a sturdy muleteer who carves his dinner from a mighty gourd, and from that and his coarse bread dipped in oil and vinegar, with perhaps a shred of garlic, makes a meal which, at all events, enables him to do more than most tourists could manage, even though they belonged to the Alpine Club. However, our advice is, eschew melon for the present and buy another orange.

**A SHOCKING CASE OF WIFE MURDER** took place at Paddington on Tuesday night. A man named Ringwood was with his wife in a public-house, and she was singing, while her husband was talking with another man. This annoyed the wife, and she abused him till he lost his temper, and thrust or threw a knife at her, which entered her neck and produced almost instant death. The prisoner is under remand.

**ORIGIN OF UNIFORMS.**—At the Restoration, when forces were established in England and Scotland, each country having its separate guards, line, and artillery, scarlet was the colour almost uniformly adopted, save in one instance, when the King clothed in blue, faced with red, the Royal Regiment of English Horse Guards, which was embodied on the 26th of August, 1661, under Aubrey, Earl of Oxford. These colours it still retains; but a corps of marines raised about the same time, oddly enough, wore yellow coats—the old Dutch uniform. On the 2nd of April, in the same year, 1661, the Scottish Life Guards rode through the city of Edinburgh "in gallant order," says Nicol the Diarist, "their carbines upon their saddles, and swords drawn in their hands." It pleased his Majesty to clothe their trumpeters and the master of the kettle-drum in very rich apparel. Colours were presented, and soon after the King gave to each gentleman a buff coat. In February, 1683, General Sir Thomas Dalzell obtained from the Privy Council at Edinburgh a license permitting the manufacturers at Newmills "to import 2536 ells of stone-grey cloth from England" for his dragoon regiment, the Scots Greys, which had been raised two years before—hence their costume, as well as their grey horses, may have led to their present well-known appellation. This grey cloth cost 5s. an ell.—*United Service Magazine.*

**NEVER GIVE A BISHOP A BLANK CHECK.**—Sir Richard was a man of most noble and generous disposition, and his charity was of a truly catholic cast. Nathan Rothschild had actually asked him on one occasion for a contribution towards the erection of a synagogue, and had got it, and a liberal one, too. The Bishop of —, a prelate of distinguished piety and an insatiable craving for new churches and new livings, had on one occasion of many pathetically lamented to his "dear, though religiously-mistaken friend," Sir Richard Eilesee, the spiritual destitution of one of the metropolitan districts. The banker had just had two slices of good luck: he had realised in a joint operation with the house of Baring and the house of Hope a net profit of about £50,000 sterling, and had enriched his collection with an undoubted Sebastiano del Piombo—a dead bargain in the bargain. So the Bishop had hit upon a good time for his pleading. Sir Richard, even more than usually disposed to a generous liberality, handed the petitioning prelate a blank cheque, which that worthy ecclesiastic had the modesty to fill up to the tune of thirty thousand pounds sterling!—to build a church and endow the living, to which he forthwith, and even ere the site for the sacred edifice had been chosen, designated a deserving young clergyman, a near relation of his own, of course. Well, the cheque being for a large sum, and upon Sir Richard's private account, was presented in due time to the head cashier, who opened his eyes very wide, and, after some hesitation, decided, at the risk of a row with his chief, to proceed to the banker's sanctum, and endeavour, if possible, to obtain the cancelling of the obnoxious little document. When the cashier presented himself before his chief, and mutely handed him the cheque, it must be confessed Sir Richard was slightly staggered, and felt not a little wroth; poor easy man, he had given the Bishop credit for some delicacy. He was annoyed; but his first impulse, and a very natural one, was to quarrel with the man who had, as it were, brought the annoyances home to him. So, addressing the cashier for the first time in their lives, "Sir," he sternly demanded, "pray, Sir, had you any doubt about my signature?" Then, suddenly struck with the consciousness of the gross injustice of this rebuke, before the indignant cashier could find words to give vent to his outraged feelings, the banker added, in a tone of heartfelt contrition, "Wilson, my dear friend, forgive me and shake hands; and if ever you catch me giving a blank cheque to any of God's servants again, I give you leave to tell me of it. Shake hands. You must confess it is very annoying to be done in this disgraceful manner; but pay it, my boy, pay it, and let's have done with it, for Heaven's sake."—*The Old Ledger.* By Dr. Strauss.

## OPERA AND CONCERTS.

THE season at the Royal English Opera may now be looked upon as at an end, as far as musical performances are concerned. "Christmas Eve" will probably be played every night until the theatre closes. No one goes to hear it, or cares whether it is played or not; but it is so very short that those who arrive too soon for the pantomime cannot be much bored by it. Thus it happens that "Christmas Eve" is given night after night, as though it were a successful work. It will probably have been performed fifty or sixty times before it is finally shelved. "Ida," which certainly was not worse than "Christmas Eve," was only played three times. But then "Ida" was much longer, and therefore much more intolerable. In the meanwhile, the pantomime is so attractive that the theatre is full every night; and no one seems to think there is too much of it, though the performance lasts about the same time as that of "L'Africaine," which many persons found tediously long. A public which is fatigued by four hours' of Meyerbeer's music, divided into five acts, and is delighted by upwards of three hours of continuous pantomime, is not very likely to support an operatic theatre, strictly conducted as such. The pantomime, however, may be said to have a semi-operatic character; for about half of it consists of ballet, and ballet belongs more or less naturally to opera. This is the only pretext we can think of for still calling the Covent-garden establishment the Royal English Opera.

The concert for the benefit of Mr. Wallace's family produced a most insignificant sum. At the next concert given with the same object it is to be hoped that an orchestra will be engaged, and that the general organisation will be much better than it was at the first of the series. Some weeks ago the names were published (in large type) of a number of musicians, amateurs, and others who had agreed to act as a committee in connection with what was called the "Wallace Memorial Fund." Beyond sanctioning the publication of their names, what have these gentlemen hitherto done? Perhaps, however, at this moment they may be exerting themselves to get up a concert for Mr. Wallace's family on a becoming scale. The proper thing to do would be to arrange a performance of "Mariana" or "The Amber Witch" at one of the large theatres—say Her Majesty's. The singers and musicians would, without doubt, give their services gratuitously. The theatre would not cost much, even if Mr. Mapleson wanted to be paid for the use of it, which we do not believe he would. But the members of the committee must do something beyond allowing their names to be printed.

Mme. Sainton-Dolby's "ballad-concert" was in all respects successful. There was scarcely a vacant place in the hall (St. James's); and scarcely one ballad was sung that was not encored. Mme. Sainton-Dolby was especially fortunate in a new ballad, written by Mr. Planché and composed by Virginia Gabriel, called "The Lady of Kienst Tower;" she also sang Claribel's "I cannot sing the old songs," and "Maggie's Secret," and Blumenthal's "The Children's Kingdom." The other singers were Mme. Rudersdorff, Mme. Drasdil, Mme. Annette Hirst, Herr Reichardt, Mr. Perren, &c. A pianist (Mr. Brinley Richards) had been engaged, and also, we have no doubt, a piano. The latter, however, did not arrive. Consequently the former might as well have stayed away.

The American newspapers are enthusiastic on the subject of Mme. Parepa's singing. According to one journalist, she is "gifted with one of those rare voices that is permitted to burst upon the world of song about once every twenty years." The same writer asserts that "her register is marvellous, reaching the brilliant altitude of E flat without strain or apparent effort, and descending, in unbroken melody, to the depth of the sombre region." "Her arpeggio passages," we are further informed, "indicate breadth, quality of tone, ease, and lightness." We should like to have a clear definition of "breadth" as indicated by an arpeggio passage. However, Mme. Parepa has been very successful; and at one concert, where she sang a ballad by Claribel, "the climax of delight culminated into a storm of applause." The critic, not content with simply chronicling Mme. Parepa's success, insists on accounting for it on quasi-metaphysical principles. "It is a rule," he says, "that only the emotional singer can be successful in awakening the mysterious sympathy that defies music and links it with the soul." This is as mysterious as M. Prudhomme's celebrated speech: "Gentlemen, this sabre is the happiest moment of my life, with it I swear to defend the institutions of my country, and if necessary to attack them." We already knew that Mme. Parepa was an admirable singer, but it is something novel to hear that she has been "awakening the mysterious sympathy that defies music and links it with the soul."

A correspondent of the *Musical World*, writing from "Primrose-hill," tells a Scotch bagpipe story, which—to us, at least—is new. "It is related," he says, "that a soldier of the 42nd Regiment fell asleep in a Cannongate public-house, and that three pipers having entered and agreed to play all at once, the slumbering hero dreamed he was in heaven."

THE DUCHESS DE CHARTRES gave birth to a son, on Wednesday morning, at Morgan House, Ham-common.

**LIFE-BOAT SERVICES.**—During the year 1865 the life-boats of the National Life-boat Institution were the means of rescuing 445 lives from the following shipwrecks on the coast of the United Kingdom:—Brig Willie Ridley, of Plymouth, 8; barque Amara, of Sunderland, 18; schooner Susan, of Dublin, 4; fishing-boat, of Berwick-on-Tweed, saved vessel and crew, 6; brig Elizabeth, of Shields, saved vessel and crew, 7; schooner Albion, of Teignmouth, 6; lugger La Maria Francois le Pere Samson, saved vessel and crew, 4; smack Leader, of Harwich, 1; schooner Auga, of Norway, saved vessel and crew, 4; schooner Emma, of Barrow, 5; yawl Matchless, of Newhaven, saved vessel and crew, 3; brig Hants, of Odessa, saved vessel; barque Lexington, of Nassau, assisted to save vessel and crew, 14; brig Border Chieftan, of Hartlepool, 8; schooner Delila, of Nantes, 7; brigantine Eclipse, of St. Ives, 1; schooner Pfeil, of Blankenese, 7; schooner Kate, of Lynn, 4; schooner Teazer, of Goole, 1; ship's boat, in Redwharf Bay, Anglesea, 1; brigantine Burton, of Wivenhoe, 1; steamer Ocean Queen, of Newcastle, 15; lugger Peep O'Day of Wexford 6; barque Maria Soames, of London, 19; schooner Speed, of Wexford, 6; smack Agnes and Mary, of Glasgow, 1; sloop Catherine, of Liverpool, saved vessel and crew, 4; schooner Johnson, of Exeter, 4; brigantine Light of the Harem, of Whitstable, saved vessel and crew, 4; brig Steffania, of Palermo, saved vessel and crew, 12; schooner Henry Holman, of Plymouth, saved vessel and crew, 8; schooner Thomas, of Liverpool, 5; brig Nautilus, of South Shields, saved vessel and crew, 9; brig Harlington, of Sunderland, saved vessel and crew, 9; brig Kathleen, of Hartlepool, saved vessel and crew, 6; schooner Patrois, of Barth, 5; sloop Robert Hood, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, 2; French brig Providence, of Granville, 4; schooner Earl Zetland, of Alnmouth, saved vessel and crew, 5; schooner Emma, of Barrow, 6; brig Reaper, of Scarborough, 9; schooner Franklin, of Belfast, 4; Longship Lighthouse Keeper, 1; schooner Clara Brown, of Barrow, 4; schooner Maria, of Hull, saved vessel and crew, 3; fishing-coble, of Newbiggin, 4; fishing-smack Splendid, of Grimsby, 9; Belgian brig Epofir, 11; smack Dahlia, of Portmadoc, saved vessel and crew, 3; lighter in Dublin Bay, 5; brig Argo, of Fayal, saved vessel; barque Drydens, of North Shields, 13; brig Wearmouth, of Sunderland, 9; brig Commerzwelshaus, of Mecklenburg, 11; schooner Test, of Southampton, 6; brigantine Tobaco, of Hamburg, 5; barque Atlas, of North Shields, 13; Norwegian barque Sirius, saved vessel, 1; brig Anne and Mary, North Shields, 9; ship Savoire Faire, of Liverpool, 23; brig Raven, of London, saved vessel and crew, 10; schooner Token, of Jersey, 6; ship Orso, of North Shields, 21; smack Mary, of Cardigan, 1; steamer Barbadian, of Liverpool, 4; schooner Daniel O'Connell, of Arklow, 5; brig Lucy, of Sunderland, 6; brig Zeeplou, of Hooge, 7; and the schooner Williamson, of Veendam, 1; making a total of 445 persons saved from shipwreck by the life-boats. The institution has also granted rewards and several silver medals and other honorary acknowledgments to the crews of fishing-boats and others, for rescuing 182 persons from various wrecks on our coast, giving altogether a grand total of 627 lives saved from death during the past year, mainly through the instrumentality and encouragement of the National Life-boat Institution. For these joint services, and exercising the life-boats every quarter, the society has paid £4871. Who that has seen some of these life-boats put off in the very fury of the storm, has watched their successful fight with the elements, and has seen the same boats return laden with human life, that has not felt a deep emotion, such as one cannot but experience when witnessing some heroic and self-denying act? The institution has already paid this year £21,374 on various life-boat stations. Since its formation it has expended altogether £128,559 on its 153 life-boat establishments. The demands on the society continue to be very heavy for payments on life-boat establishments. It is therefore earnestly hoped that the public at large will continue to strengthen the hands of its committee in carrying out the great and national objects of the National Life-boat Institution.

## M. DU CHAILLU IN WESTERN EQUATORIAL AFRICA.

THE Royal Geographical Society held one of its monthly meetings on Monday evening, and as it was known that M. P. B. Du Chaillu was to read upon the occasion a paper describing his second journey into Western Equatorial Africa, this circumstance drew together an unusually numerous audience. The chair was taken by Sir R. Murchison, Bart., the president of the society; and among the general company were Mr. Adams, the American Minister; Lord A. Churchill; Mr. Crawford, M.P.; Sir Henry Rawlinson, M.P.; Mr. J. Crawford, president of the Ethnological Society; Mr. G. Folsom, president of the American Ethnological Society; Professor Owen, &c.

The president said he had to introduce to the company his friend M. Du Chaillu, who would read to them his paper, and to whom he was sure they would give a most hearty reception.

M. Du Chaillu, who is a man of slight and almost diminutive, but apparently hardy and well-knit frame, then came forward, amidst renewed cheering; and, after having stated that for the last two years he had had no opportunity of speaking either English or French, and had therefore to claim the indulgence of the audience for any unexpected deficiency they might observe in his pronunciation, proceeded to read his paper very intelligibly, although with an unmistakably foreign accent. He left London on the 5th of August, 1863, and on the 9th of October in the same year, reached a point called Fernan Vaz, on the African coast, immediately to the south of the equator. He advanced eastwards to the Ashira country, where he had been during a former journey, and where he was well remembered and kindly received. There he had been favoured with many offers of marriage, but he had respectfully declined them. In reading the works of Grant, Speke, and Burton he noticed in them many words which were identical with, or which closely resembled, words used in the district through which he had passed; and he had no doubt that the tribes of Western and Eastern Africa had originally formed one common stock. He had seen during his travels numbers of gorillas, and, after his renewed experience, he saw nothing to retract in the account he had formerly given of those animals. After he and his party had been about three weeks in Ashira that country was ravaged by a visitation of smallpox. Misery and desolation were spread around him; he was himself reduced to a most dejected and prostrate condition; he had not sufficient nourishment, and he and his eleven companions had upon one occasion nothing to eat for four days but two monkeys, and very agreeable food they found them. He was ultimately enabled to continue his journey eastwards, and in the course of his travels he met with a singularly diminutive race, the average height which they attained being only from 4 ft. 4 in. to 4 ft. 5 in. After he had advanced about 200 miles further than any European had yet penetrated, an accident brought the whole undertaking to an unexpected termination. He reached a village in which one of his men let off his gun, and, contrary to his intention, two of the natives, a man and a woman, were thus unfortunately killed. The villagers at once grew excited, and attacked with their bows and arrows himself and his party. He could not blame them for the suspicion and the irritation under which they were acting, and he forbade his men to fire on them. He then ordered his followers to retire, which they did at first in good order, while he himself remained in their rear, as he believed that he was less than they were an object of resentment to their pursuers. But soon a panic seized his party; he found it impossible to check them; they threw away all the articles with which they were loaded; he himself felt compelled to join them in their flight, and to part with many of his most valuable articles. The result was that, although they ultimately rallied, he lost all his instruments, as well as his ammunition, and everything that could have enabled him to continue his journey with advantage. He therefore at once retraced his steps westwards, and immediately afterwards made his way back to England. M. Du Chaillu concluded, amidst considerable cheering, by expressing his gratitude to Sir R. Murchison and to Professor Owen for the support he had received from them throughout all his labours and amidst all the opposition he had to encounter.

The president next briefly addressed the meeting, and pointed out the remarkable qualities which M. Du Chaillu had displayed throughout his travels. It was not, perhaps, generally known that he had undertaken his last journey entirely at his own expense, and that he had only been able to do so by devoting to that object the whole of the profits derived from the sale of his very remarkable work on Equatorial Africa. He had, at the same time, exhibited a skill, hardihood, and courage worthy of that gallant country, France, in which he was born; and Englishmen and Frenchmen would alike gladly welcome him as their own.

Professor Owen then spoke at some length in support of the veracity of M. Du Chaillu. All the statements for which he had been most attacked had been borne out by subsequent testimony. He had, for instance, made the unwelcome announcement that he had met with a race of cannibals. That statement had been called in question; but it had been confirmed by Captain Burton, who had followed him over the district he had traversed. Then, with respect to the gorillas, he (Professor Owen) felt sure that if M. Du Chaillu had given any false accounts of their habits he should have found some traces of that falsehood in the knowledge he had been able to obtain of the conformation of these animals. But he had not the slightest reason to suppose that the language of M. Du Chaillu upon that subject was in any respect untrue.

Mr. Dunkin, who is one of the assistants at the Greenwich Observatory, said he had been astonished at the multitude and the accuracy of the astronomical observations made by M. Du Chaillu.

Mr. J. Crawford, the chairman of the Ethnological Society, said he felt it his duty to declare that he found it impossible to believe in the existence of the race of dwarfs whom M. Du Chaillu said he had met with in Africa. Those people, if the statement were correct, were smaller than other human beings that had yet been known; and he could not understand how it was possible that they could live in the midst of other races who appeared to speak the same language.

M. Du Chaillu said that those people ran away when he approached them, and he had been able to examine only one or two of their number. But, with respect to them, he had only to repeat facts as they had come under his actual observation.

THE CAVOUR CANAL, one of the greatest public works in Italy, is now completed. The waters of the Po have been admitted into the channel, and now fill its whole extent of fifty-three miles.

ELI SYKES, under sentence at Leeds for double murder at Batley, died in Armsley Gaol, on Saturday last, in consequence of the fracture of one ankle, sustained by leaping from a high gallery on the 23rd ult.

THE REFORM BILL.—We believe the outline of the Government Reform Bill has been prepared and was submitted by Earl Russell to the Cabinet Council held at his official residence, Downing-street, on Wednesday. It would, of course, be unreasonable to expect any positive announcement with regard to the details of a measure which must as yet be regarded as under consideration. But the friends of reform have, we believe, reason to hope that the scheme will prove to be uncomplicated by any details which might hamper its progress through Parliament; and we venture to predict that the positive assertion recently made by a contemporary as to the high rate of the county franchise to be adopted will turn out to be unfounded.—*Star.*

WONDERS OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.—The construction of the English language must appear most formidable to a foreigner. One of them, looking at a picture of a number of vessels, said, "See, what a flock of ships!" He was told that a flock of ships was called a fleet, and that a fleet of sheep was called a flock. And it was added, for his guidance in mastering the intricacies of our language, that "a flock of girls is called a bevy, that a bevy of wolves is called a pack, and a pack of thieves is called a gang, and a gang of angels is called a host, a host of porpoises is called a shoal, a shoal of buffalo is called a herd, and a herd of children is called a troop, and a troop of partridges is called a covey, and a covey of beauties is called a galaxy, and a galaxy of ruffians is called a horde, and a horde of ruffians is called a heap, and a heap of oxen is called a drove, and a drove of blackguards is called a mob, and a mob of whales is called a school, and a school of worshippers is called a congregation, and a congregation of engineers is called a corps, and a corps of robbers is called a band, and a band of locusts is called a swarm, and a swarm of people is called a crowd, and a crowd of gentlefolks is called a cete, and the suite of the city's thieves and rascals is called the roughs."—*American Paper.*







**STANDARD ENGLISH SONGS.**—As I'd nothing else to do (Hutton)—The Bride (Nelson)—Cheer for the Pilot (Spence)—My Fatherland (Barnett)—Fair not, but true in Providence (Nelson)—Pillar Rock (Barnett)—Life is a River (Nelson)—Of what is the old man thinking (Knight)—O give to me those early flowers (Hutton)—The Pilot (Nelson)—Say, what shall my song be to-night (Knight)—Spirit of Air (G. Linley)—The Veteran (Knight)—The Normandy Maid (Barnett)—The Grecian Daughter (Knight)—Welcome, my Bonnie lad (G. Linley)—The best of all good company (Phillips)—The Old Soldier's Daughter (Knight). To be had of all Music-sellers. Price 2s. 6d. each; forwarded on receipt of 16 stamps.

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